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THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Stage coach
Profile of the Royal Ballet's challenging choreographer. Sir Kenneth Macmillan



Home front
Ronald Butt analyses Leon Brittan's defence of the Government's "radical" credentials

Drinking problem
The EEC has demanded tax changes for wine in Britain: a look at the Chancellor's options in the next Budget

Cricket shorts
Derek Hodgson reports from New Zealand on the second of England's one day cricket matches

Book choice
Reviews of a new work on Ernest Rutherford, the first man to split the atom, and the latest crop of thrillers

Thatcher says most GCHQ workers support union ban

● The Prime Minister told Parliament that she had won the support of most staff at Government Communications Headquarters in Cheltenham for the decision to deprive them of trade union rights

● Mrs Thatcher agreed to meet the unions' leaders tomorrow, but has given no indication that she will change her ground

● The Civil Service unions accused the Government of "massaging" the acceptance figures to include Cheltenham employees who were not union members

● The director of GCHQ told those of his staff so far undecided that without union membership they would still benefit from national agreements on pay and conditions

By Julian Haviland and David Felton

The Prime Minister yesterday said in Parliament that the Government had won the support of the majority of staff at the Cheltenham communications headquarters for its decision to deprive them of trade union rights.

Official sources said that no more than about a dozen out of a supposed total of 7,000 union and non-union employees had positively refused the Government's terms, as urged by leaders of the Civil Service unions, and asked to be transferred.

At the same time Downing Street published the text of a letter sent yesterday to his staff by the director of the headquarters, Mr Peter Marychurch, which was framed to win over those two to three thousand who have yet to make up their minds. They have been given until March 1 to decide.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, after again discussing with senior colleagues the mood at Cheltenham and the progress of discussions between the unions and Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary to the Cabinet, agreed to hold a further meeting with the union's national leaders tomorrow.

But not once since her last meeting with them on February 1 has Mrs Thatcher given any indication that she is willing to change her ground.

Nor did she yesterday. She seemed rather to see the new policy as already implemented when she said in the Commons that Cheltenham had now been brought into line as with other security organizations.

She told a Labour questioner that the majority at GCHQ had accepted the Government's offer and a minimal number had refused it.

It was said afterwards that taking union and non-union staff together, between 50 and 60 per cent had accepted Option A, by which they forego the right of trade union membership and accept £1,000 each in compensation.

Mr Marychurch's letter showed some concern about the undecided, assuring them that they would still be part of the Home Civil Service, particularly in relation to agreements about national pay and conditions.

Countering various allegations made by the unions and by Opposition MPs, Mr Marychurch said that the changes has not been arbitrarily imposed by the Government, but stemmed from an initiative by the Cheltenham management which he had always supported.

The impression had been created that the Government believed the staff to be lacking in loyalty. This was not so – ministers and the management were absolutely confident of the loyalty and dedication of the staff.

Echoing arguments used by ministers, Mr Marychurch said that the Government had acted "to remove any potential conflict of loyalties" which membership of national unions had produced in the past.

The issue was the fundamental conflict between GCHQ's operational responsibilities and "the potential effect of national trade union membership".

Civil Service union leaders expressed disbelief at the Prime Minister's assertion that the majority of GCHQ staff had agreed to forego union membership and said that their information pointed to "nowhere near 50 per cent have signed".

The unions were more inclined to the view that Mrs Thatcher's statement was another round in the propaganda war being fought between themselves and the Government and Mr Peter Jones, secretary of the Council of Civil Service Unions, said: "I hope she was being bullish today in order to be conciliatory on Thursday".

Union officials welcomed the prospect of the Downing Street meeting tomorrow, which will follow a lobby of Parliament

Continued on page 2, col 3



The Princess of Wales meeting Gemma Sanger, aged 14 months, and her mother, Jane, yesterday at the Royal Marsden cancer hospital at Sutton, Surrey

Union ban on extra imports of coal

By Our Labour Correspondent

Transport unions pledged yesterday their backing for a ban on increased foreign coal imports, which miners' leaders believe are about to be brought in to undermine their 16-week overtime ban.

Union leaders representing railway workers, dockers, lorry drivers and seamen all gave their support, with some unions immediately instructing members not to handle fresh coal imports, despite the apparently unlawful nature of that action.

Support for the miners came at a meeting in London of six unions, which was told by Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, that at a meeting in Gdansk, Poland, plans had been drawn up to import "substantial" amounts of cheap coal.

Mr Scargill said "certain forces within Britain with tacit government approval" had held the secret meeting on February 7 in a hotel with Polish trade officials and that a Polish official had been appointed to work full-time on the project.

Mr scargill said that a British company was known to be involved.

Mr Sam McCluskie, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, said that he would try to ensure that ships with Polish coal would not be allowed to leave port.

The Polish Embassy said last night that it knew nothing about the plan and the National Coal Board said it was not involved. Mr Ian MacGregor, the board chairman, said: "We have been having some talks with the Poles, trying to persuade them not to take advantage of the position in our industry. In this Mr Scargill and I are on the same side".

Coal board officials have noted an increase since the overtime ban of Polish imports amouting to about 50,000 tonnes in a full year of anthracite, which the NCB cannot satisfy demand and between 30,000 and 50,000 tonnes of domestic coal.

Instructions have been sent out to National Union of Railwaymen members not to handle imports above the normal three million tonnes a year. The Train drivers' union, Aslef, also gave its full support.

Mr Ron Todd, national organizer of the Transport and General Workers Union, said he would strongly recommend his executive to support the miners.

● Miners at the doomed Polmaise pit in Stirlingshire were on official strike yesterday (the Press Association reports).

There were shouts from 100 Polmaise miners lobbying a conference in Edinburgh on Monday when they heard that an all-out strike at Scotland's 12 mines had been ruled out, by the NUM's regional exective.

Stockpiles abroad, page 2

Brittan blames the unions

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, yesterday laid the blame for Britain's 3 million unemployed at the feet of the trade unions and successive Labour governments.

Addressing the Institute of Directors convention in London, he also reiterated that the professions should not remain unnecessarily sheltered from "the stiff breezes of competition".

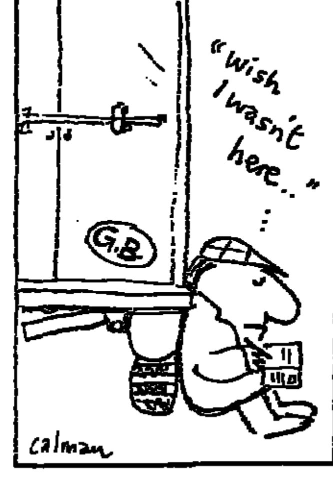
Convention report, page 8

Labour 'budget'

Mr Roy Hattersley, [illegible] chancellor, has laid down guidelines for a more moderate Labour economic policy in his alternative budget Page2

Botha summit

A summit between Mr P. W. Botha, South Africa's Prime Minister, and President Machel of Mozambique seems likely before the two countries sign a joint security pact Page 7



Sterling surges

The pound and dollar both rose sharply against other world currencies on fears of threats to Western oil supplies from the Middle East Page 21

Corbiere better

Corbiere, the 1983 Grand National winner, was confirmed as a likely runner for this year's Aintree race after x-ray examination of his injured leg revealed no broken bones Page 25

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Khomeini's child shock troops; Bernard Levin, no holds barred on the South Bank; Phillip Whitehead take issue with Mrs Thatcher over the Oman affair. Spectrum: an echo of the Falklands. Wednesday Page: a bilingual approach to folklore
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Government defeat on phone tapping

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The [illegible]ment was defeated last night when Labour, Alliance, and cross-bench peers voted to make telephone tapping subject to statutory control.

The surprise defeat came during the committee stage in the Lords of the Telecommunications Bill, the day after the Government was accused at the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg of "obsessive secrecy" over information about telephone tapping.

A clause was added to the Bill to control the right of the state to intercept telephone calls, and to provide for fines of up to £5,000 and three years' imprisonment for unauthorized tapping.

It was approved by 129 votes to 112 despite a plea from Lord MacKay of Clashfern, the Lord Advocate, that it would be inappropriate to legislate when the Strasbourg case was pending.

Judgment in the case, brought by a Surrey antiques dealer, Mr James Malone, is expected late this year. If it is against Britain new legislation could be required in any case.

Ministers were considering last night whether to attempt to reverse the Lords defeat in the Commons, or to bring in amendments

Telephone-tapping is carried out at present on the personal authority of the Home Secretary.

The clause would give private individuals the right to sue in the courts but litigation and secrecy, which was necessary for interception to be effective, were difficult to reconcile.

One Conservative voted against the Government.

Roadblocks trap British lorry drivers

By Richard Dowden

As many as 350 British lorry drivers may be stranded in France by the road hauliers' blockades, most of them in the valley up to the Mont Blanc tunnel. Some have been stuck for a week.

Mr Peter Young, the consul in Lyons, said two if his staff were travelling around the area, trying to contact British lorry drivers and mediating for them with police and the pickets.

"They are trying to persuade the pickets to allow the drivers to leave their trailers behind or to turn around or even to get through."

They were also trying to get local people to help the stranded drivers. "No money has been given to drivers who are running short yet, but that can be done as a last resort."

A British lorry driver stranded in the valley up to Chamonix said yesterday that some them were running short of money and food.

Mr Peter Mays, from Corby, in a telephone interview with the BBC's *World at One*, said: "It is very cold and snowing ... we are having to try to find tyres and timber to burn to keep warm and dry. We are sleeping in the trucks; some of us have night heaters, but some of the trucks don't have heating."

He was with about 20 drivers who had spent six nights in these conditions. Other reports spoke of fuel freezing in the lorries' tanks and of drivers running out of fuel.

On the same programme, Mr Alan Payne, from the Lyons consulate, said he knew of no one in a very serious position.

Israelis cross Awali again in massive show of strength

From Christopher Walker, Sidon

At a time when many Israelis are pressing for a quick withdrawal from occupied Lebanon, the Israeli Government has over the past 48 hours ordered one of the biggest shows of mechanized strength in the country since the invasion on June 6 1982.

United Nations sources told *The Times* that since Sunday, the Israelis had moved mechanized units into southern Lebanon and ferried in extra troops by helicopter. Yesterday, for the second time in only 48 hours, Israeli warplanes bombed what were described as "terrorist targets" in Lebanon.

On Monday, standing at what had been regarded as Israel's front line on the Awali Bridge, just north of the port city of Sidon, I watched as an Israeli armoured column of 15 tanks, two giant bulldozers, and over 60 crowded armoured personnel carriers rumbled north in a cloud of choking dust.

The massive show of force was apparently to deter victorious Druze and Muslim militias from pressing further south from the coastal town of Damour, about 15 miles south of Beirut. It also let it be known that Israel would hit back if Palestinians begun infiltrating southwards again, thus destroying any achievements of the war. Many observers saw the move as the establishment of an Israeli "red line" on the map of Lebanon.

BEIRUT
Chatila Palestinian refugee camp
Airport
CHOUF MTS
Khalde
Damour
BAROUK MTS
BEKAA VALLEY
ISRAELI FRONT LINE
Awali River
Sidon
5 miles

It took the column 40 minutes to roll noisily by. It was an impressive sign of the way in which Israel – despite the many doubts at home – is apparently still prepared to commit men and weaponry north of the Awali defence line to which it retreated last year. Confusingly, the push came just as the Israeli Cabinet is considering an army plan to move its defence line further south, and cut the military profile. No decisiion has yet been taken.

"That every vehicle carried a large conspicuous Star of David, was indicative that it was a mission designed primarily to drive home a message rather than for combat" said a UN officer. "Political messages in Lebanon are traditionally sent by military means, and it seems Israel was following suit."

As the soldiers in their goggles waved from their tanks, giving the operation a war-movie flavour, a Christian militiaman waved back his

Continued on back page, col 6

Seven held after raids linked to arms cache

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Seven men were last night under interrogation by detectives at Thames Valley police stations after a series of raids linked to the discovery of arms near Reading, Berkshire, and to Provisional IRA bombings in London.

The men, most of whom are understood to have Irish backgrounds, were arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act when armed detectives from the Thames Valley force and Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad searched a number of addresses in Reading early yesterday morning. Many were in an area which includes bedsitters and has a small Irish population.

The men were taken to Reading police station and another two police stations in the area.

Last night a spokesman for Thames Valley police said he was unable to comment on the arrests other than a brief statement linking them to the arms caches found on an estate at Pangbourne, Berkshire, last October.

Trustees to keep control of Reuters

From a Staff Reporter

Reuters' Trustees are expected today to approve the formula by which they will retain control over the news-agency's integrity and editorial independence after it becomes a public company in May.

The £1bn flotation on the stock exchange will give Reuters' owners, the Fleet Street and provincial newspapers, a multi-million windfall – made possible by the success of the agency's business-information systems.

A statement is expected early this afternoon.

Tribunal orders arrest of General Galtieri

Former Argentine President General Leopoldo Galtieri could face immediate disciplinary action by Argentina's highest military court for having led the country into the disastrous Falklands War with Britain (Douglas Tweedale writes from Buenos Aires).

The supreme council of armed forces questioned General Galtieri extensively yesterday about charges that he was negligent in his leadership of that war, and the news agency Noticias Argentinas reported that the military tribunal had ordered his arrest, after hearing his testimony.

Mondale takes off–Glenn comes down to earth

From Nicholas Ashford
Des Moines, Iowa

"Tonight is the beginning of the end of the Reagan Administration," Mr Walter Mondale told jubilant supporters after his crushing victory in the Iowa precinct caucuses on Monday night.

Easily fending off the challenge posed by his seven rivals for the Democratic nomination, he captured 50 per cent of the 85,000 votes cast. With a handful of results to come, the nearest runners-up were Senator Gary Hart, with 16 per cent and Mr George McGovern, with 9 per cent.

The faltering campaign of Senator John Glenn suffered a crippling blow when the former astronaut finished fifth, with only 3 per cent. Monday was the 22nd anniversary of his earth orbit. As a rival campaign worker cruely remarked, "He has finally come down to earth with a bang."

The other principal loser was Senator Alan Cranston who had hoped for second place, but came fourth with 7 per cent. Of the other three candidates, Mr Reubin Askew, who had sought to win conservative Democrats to his side by campaigning against abortion, finished just behind Mr Glenn. The Rev Jesse Jackson and Senator Ernest Hollings did not campaign in Iowa and won only a handful of votes.



The big loser, the old campaigner, the first choice: Senator Glenn, Mr McGovern and Mr Mondale.

Although Mr Mondale's confident prediction about recapturng the White House is premature, his victory here bolsters his argument that the nominating process is all but over and that he is assured of being the party's choice to run against Mr Reagan in November.

In particular, it strengthens his chances of coming first in the New Hampshire primary, the most important early contest of the campaign, next Tuesday.

Mr Mondale's success was even greater than his campaign officials had hoped. They attributed it to his superior organization, which included considerable support from trade unions, teachers and young volunteers from his neighbouring home state of Minnesota, and to his triple theme of the need for fairness, economic recovery and a safer world.

Mr Hart has every reason to be pleased with his second place which should gain him the recognition and funds he has so far lacked. If, as is expected he comes second in New Hampshire, it could turn into a two-horse race. However, the gap remains enormous, although Senator Hart predicted it would narrow as other contestants dropped out.

Mr McGovern's third place came as a surprise. The former Senator from South Dakota had entered the campaign late, had virtually no money or organization and is still remembered for the humiliating defeat he suffered at the hands of President Nixon in 1972. However, he presented himself as the liberal conscience of the Democratic Party and this clearly struck a chord with many Iowa voters.

"I performed a minor miracle here," he said. "The people of Iowa voted with their convictions and conscience." Although Mr McGovern said his performance would demonstrate that he is a viable candidate, he is not expected to perform as well in New Hampshire and other early primaries.

The biggest surprise was the scale of Mr Glenn's defeat. Although his campaign staff had known for weeks that the tide had turned, they still hoped he would finish a strong second.

"I got licked," the Ohio Senator conceded. But he said those who participated in the caucuses tended to be "liberal activists" and were not representative of the Democratic Party as a whole.

Although it is too early to write off Mr Glenn's chances, he could soon be out of the race unless he can make a strong showing in primaries over the next three weeks.

Man who came second, page 6
Frank Johnson, back page

Hattersley takes moderate line in alternative budget

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

Higher public borrowing, a lower sterling exchange rate, extra public investment and redistributive tax and social security benefit changes were proposed by Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow chancellor, last night.

But his speech, designed to lay down markers for Labour's new economic policy, was far more moderate in tone than the £11,000m alternative budget outlined by Mr Peter Shore last night.

Mr Hattersley attached no numbers to his ingredients for an alternative budget in a speech to his constituency party in Birmingham, Sparkbrook. But has appeared to be arguing for only a "moderate" increase in public borrowing.

His budget, which he said was "more likely to meet the nation's real needs than the shibboleths of monetarism", rested upon:

- A "planned relaxation" of the public sector borrowing requirment.
- The concentration of "most" government spending on public investment.
- Increases in social security benefits, combined with tax changes to redistribute benefits from rich to poor.
- A "moderate" depreciation of sterling and "specific and limited" import controls to improve industry's competitiveness.
- A reduction in prices and industrial costs which are the responsibility of government (for example, energy prices).

These elements were present in Labour's pre-election programme, but Mr Hattersley was careful not to express any on a massive financial scale. His speech mainly concentrated on the need to assist industry, by lowering the exchange rate and by abolishing the national insurance surcharge.

Even here, he suggested that some of the cost could be reclaimed by abolishing the ceiling on national insurance contributions, to raise more from the higher-paid.

To raise revenue to help to finance such changes, Mr Hattersley also proposed a wealth tax as "a possible source", together with a tightening up on fringe benefits and tax allowances.

However, Mr Hattersley said that the case for a moderate increase in public borrowing was overwhelming. He argued that it was a highly-desirable way of paying for new plant and machinery. "I suspect that the famous Grantham grocer's shop was bought on credit."

He argued that a boost to demand was essential to help industry, in particular manufacturing industry, which he said had been written off by the Government.

Council workers to vote on pay offer

By Barrie Clement
Labour Reporter

Leaders of 900,000 local authority manual workers yesterday agreed to put a "final" 4.5 per cent pay offer to their members.

The proposed deal, which will cost £115m, covers the largest single group of public sector workers and will be used as a precedent for more than two and a half million employees in central and local government. The offer breaks the Cabinet's pay guideline of 3 per cent.

It will inevitably influence the negotiations of leaders of 100,000 white collar staff in the National Health Service who yesterday called for a £100 minimum wage and a 7 per cent pay rise across the board.

Mr John Edmonds, who led the negotiating team for the council workers, said he would not be recommending the deal to members of the three unions involved. But he added: "We have a settlement that, with luck, will protect their living standards this year. But we still have a deep and serious problem about low pay."

The local authority employers warned the union negotiators, who represent members of the general and municipal workers, the transport and general workers and the National Union of Public Employees, that the improved offer could nean redundancies, reduced services and more privatization.

The employers said: "The important factor the unions should remember is that we will be struggling to find the money for this settlement, and there is no question of negotiating more."

Pay talks last month ended with them repeating a 3 per cent offer amid union alletations that the Government had intervened to keep the wage offer down. Yesterday employers raised the offer first to 3.87 per cent and then to 4.4 per cent.

The deal consists of a flat rate increase for each grade of worker. Basic pay for the lowest grade would rise from £66.90 to £70.30; the highest grade, including craftsmen and some drivers, would receive £85.25, compared with £81.85. The total pay bill would rise by 4.5 per cent.

The employers said the effects of the pay rise on employment and services would vary, but they expected there would be some effect because of central government stringency. They are also anxious that the offer is not used as a benchmark for other council.



Regal Revival: Life-size models displaying dress worn at the British court from the late nineteenth century will be on view at Kensington Palace state apartments from May 24. Mr Nigel Arch, the curator, who assembled the exhibition, is on the right. (Photograph: Brian Harris.)

NGA joins study on newspaper technology

By Our Labour Reporter

An unprecedented level of cooperation over new technology between provincial newspaper publishers and the National Graphical Association is due to be announced tomorrow.

A joint study of several newspapers will be launched by the union and the Newspaper Society, the employers' body which represents about 1,100 publications. It will concentrate on the source of the material printed in the papers, a particularly sensitive issue.

The study will take place against the background of "Operation Breakthrough", an initiative started in late 1982 in which the Newspaper Society has said that a deal over new technology must be reached by the end of this year.

If there is no "enabling agreement" by then, the employers have pledged to go ahead with non-union labour. It is understood that some newspaper groups have already trained stand-by staff.

The study will reveal how much can be "keyed in" directly to computers by editorial and advertising staff and how much material originates from outside which would be typed in by NGA members.

Both sides are anxious to establish this ratio. The proportion will vary, with lower-staffed weeklies taking more material from outside.

At the moment the vast majority of copy appearing in provincial newspapers is processed by the union's "operators", although there are already signs that its monopoly is breaking down.

Most big regional newspapers have conducted their own surveys on the subject, but this will be the first public research. It is understood that the Newspaper Society hopes that the findings will be available for discussion by May.

The joint study is seen by the employers as more evidence that the union is slowly coming to terms with the inevitability of new technology.

The union is confident, however, that it will prove that there is still need for a substantial number of its members.

Electronics boost for Scotland

By Ronald Faux

Shin-Etsu Handotai of Japan, one of the world's largest silicon producers, announced yesterday that it will invest more than £30m in a silicon plant at Livingston, Lothian.

The move comes a few weeks after the American company, SCI Systems Inc. of Alabama, announced that it is to build a multi-million plant at Irvine New Town, Strathclyde. The two projects will create a thousand new jobs by the end of the decade.

Mr Allan Stewart, Minister for Industry and Education at the Scottish Office, welcomed the Japanese investment yesterday at a press conference in Glasgow.

Danger of Chianti and drugs

By Thomson Prentice

The combination of drinking chianti and taking certain anti-depressant drugs could be fatal, Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Health, said in the Commons last night.

The Italian wine contains high levels of tyramine, a substance which cannot be metabolized in patients receiving treatment with the monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) group of anti-depressants.

Sir David Price, Conservative MP for Eastleigh, had asked the Minister to identify the biochemical properties of Chianti in connexion with "certain drugs".

RAF seeks more TriStars

By Rodney Cowton,
Defence Correspondent

The RAF wants to embark on a programme costing up to £300m to replace its 22 Victor aircraft used as tankers for air-to-air refuelling.

The aircraft, whih started life in the 1950s as bombers, are coming to the end of their operational service, and will probably be phased out by the end of the decade.

The Falklands conflict demonstrated the need for a much larger air tanker capacity and six Tri-Star wide-bodied jets were bought. Those, as well as nine VC10s, are being converted.

It is understood that the RAF wants to acquire a further five or six Tri-Stars at today's favourable prices and convert a similar number of VC10s to replace the Victors. Both aircraft have a much greater capacity than Victors.



Back inside: Michael Hickey yesterday voluntarily ended a record 91-day rooftop protest at Gartree maximum security jail, Leicestershire, over his conviction for the murder of Carl Bridgewater, a Staffordshire newsboy. A Home Office minister said 24 hours earlier that force would not be used to end his "passive" demonstration.

Cheap coal imports stockpiled abroad

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Britain's largest coal user, the Central Electricity Generating Board, has accepted a government request to limit its coal imports to 750,000 tonnes a year, even though Polish and South African coal is more than £20 a tonne cheaper than from Britain.

The government import limit, imposed to help the National Coal Board, has led to the CEGB stockpiling six million tonnes of Australian coal in Rotterdam, Antwerp and Amsterdam which it has bought under long-term contracts. Each year 750,000 tonnes are shipped to Britain.

Financial compensation is paid to the electricity supply industry by the Government for its agreement ot take up 60 per cnet of the National Coal Board's output each year, almost 77 million tonnes.

Freedom to buy coal on the open world markets would help the CEGB to cut its annual fuel bill, but the electricity industry has constantly underlined its willingness to help the coal board if prices can be brought down.

Its insistence on keeping the door slightly open to Australian imports is to provide a bargaining lever during annual contract price talks with the coal board.

Electricty generation experts have calculated that even with shipping costs, imported coal would still be substantially cheaper. A formula comparing coal produced in the North-east of England and delivered to the Thameside power stations with imports shows the following prices per tonne:

UK coal	£53
Polish	£31
S African	£31
Australian	£37
American	£37

The calculation also compensates for the generally poorer calorific value of British coal compared with imports. The prices are also based on the coal spot market. Longterm import contracts could be negotiated with prices as much as 20 per cent lower.

Britain's other main coal user, British Steel, which burns 7,500,000 tonnes a year in its furnaces, takes 4,500,000 tonnes from the coal board and imports the remainder under long-term contracts from the United States, Australia and Poland.

The price is a commercial secret, but British Steel points out that it buys all the coal of the quality it needs that can be produced in Britain. Imports are used simply to meet the shortfall in supply.

Department of Energy figures show that in the first eleven months of last year total coal imports to Britain were 4,130,000 tonnes, with the final annual total likely to be similar to that of 1982 at 4,400,000 tonnes.

Figures also show that Britain subsidizes each tonne by £3.20, West Germany by £4.50, France by £17.20 and Belgium by £17.70.

Police extend husband's bail

Police yesterday extended until April 2 bail on the husband of Mrs Janice Weston, the solicitor whose body was found in a lay-by on the A1 last September. The Director of Public Prosecutions is still considering the file on the case.

Mr Anthony Weston was released from police custody on December 17 after being questioned for 55 hours.

Rate rises likely to average 6%

By David Walker

Rates are likely to rise in April by an average of only 6 per cent, barely 1 or 2 per cent above the expected inflation rate. Budget meetings taking place in town halls this week and next are expected to increase of between 4.5 and 9 per cent.

However, there will be some striking exceptions. Among the last councils to show their hands will be the inner-city Labour authorities such as Hackney in east London. Leader, Mr Anthony Kendall, has said that it might push rates up by far more than the rate of inflation to avoid redundancies.

Unexpected movements in the complex grants and targets are producing some freak increases. The district of Eden in Cumbria, covering Penrith, where most councillors are "non-party", will increase its rate by 38 per cent.

Lothian yesterday decided to increase its rate by 10 per cent, with a £8m cut in expenditure. The police were called to evict protesters from the council chamber in Edinburgh.

Some exceptions to the 6 per cent average veer the other way. The 7.5 per cent cut in the Greater London Council's rate already announced will allow some of the Conservative outer London boroughs to hold or even cut their rates slightly.

Harrow, for example, is about to declare that its precept is unchanged and its ratepayers could enjoy a 2.5 per cent cut

Good news for ratepayers could prove an embarrassment for Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, in steering the controversial Rates Bill through the House of Commons.

His Labour opponents will argue that the moderate rises prove that there is no need for the sweeping powers contained in the Bill.

3 recovering after heart transplants

Three men were recovering yesterday from heart-transplant surgery at Harefield Hospital, west London where Mr Magdi Yacoub and his surgical team began a 19-hour stint on Saturday.

The first patient, Mr Stephen Syer, a design engineer, aged 41, from Cheltenham, Gloucestershire was already out of bed

The other two patients received "piggy back" donor hearts to boost their ailing hearts. One patient was not named, the other was Mr Edward Gorham, aged 56, from Kenton, west London.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 180; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.40; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 38; Madeira Esc 125; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 7.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700, USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 100

Labour tries to limit damage on IRA

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Labour leaders tried yesterday to limit the damage they fear may have been done to the party, at Chesterfield and elsewhere, by Miss Joan Maynard, who said on Monday that she would not consider the IRA to be terrorists.

Mr Peter Archer, QC, chief spokesman on Northern Ireland, said that Labour unhesitatingly condemned the IRA as a terrorist organization, and emphasized that Miss Maynard, MP for Sheffield, Bright side and a member of the national executive had also condemned violence.

Mr Archer said he did not know whether Miss Maynard's words had been taken out of context or whether an interpretation had been placed on them that she did not intend, but he said that the way they were being reported would assist the IRA cause.

Speaking on Radio 4's World at One, he said that Miss Maynard was probably saying that if there was no obvious redress for people's grievances within the constitutional system, some people unhappily, would take to violence. There was some truth in that, he said.

GCHQ staff 'support union ban'

Continued from page 1

already been organized by the unions.

They had earlier yesterday decided on their own propaganda initiative by presenting GCHQ staff with a third option, which would allow them to their union while retaining their employment.

Some union officials believed that it was that fresh initiative, predicted in *The Times* on Monday, which prompted the Prime Minister to make her statement in the Commons. The unions hope to embarrass the Government by securing support, in the form of signed copies of their own option paper, from large numbers of staff.

Mr Jones said that most of the staff referred to by the Prime Minister were non-unionists and he accused the Government of "massaging" the figures. About 4,000 people are employed at Cheltenham and a further 3,000 at out stations elsewhere in Britain and abroad. The unions estimate that their members represent about 60 per cent of the staff, with a higher proportion of members in the out stations than at Cheltenham.

The Civil Service unions had earlier urged members not to draw up plans for a a one-day strike next Tuesday, when there is to be a national day of protest against the Government's union ban at Cheltenham.

Senior union officials are telling members to ignore calls from local activitists for industrial action and to wait for the outcome of tomorrow's talks.

Trophies stolen

Thieves stole 12 silver trophies from Abingdon School in Oxfordshire which will be host next month to a crime prevention quiz run by Thames Valley Police.

£125m oil vessel order lost

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

British shipbuilding and offshore construction yards face a new threat of lost business with the decision by Sun Oil, the American oil company, to place a £125m order for a revolutionary North Sea oil production vessel overseas.

The company and its partners in the Balmoral field development met on Monday and reaffirmed their decision to place the order overseas.

Ironically the order seems certain to go to the Swedish company Gotanverk Arendal, which is involved as technical adviser to all three companies bidding for the Scott Lithgow yard.

As a potential compromise, however, Sun Oil is understood to have offered that a sizable proportion of the assembly work for the floating production vessel could be done in British yards. The Cammell Laird yard at Birkenhead, which is also part of British Shipbuilders, was among those that hoped to win the order. Howard Doris was another.

The Balmoral development was approved by the Department of Energy in December. Ministers there have subsequently failed to convince Sun Oil to place the key production vessel order in Britain but they are still confident that 70 per cent of the overall orders for the field will still come here.

Trafalgar House, one of the three bidders to take over Scott Lithgow from British Shipbuilders, said it was keen to obtain orders for the Balmoral project, and could place them at the lower Clyde yard. "It would be a tragedy if this order, the first of its kind, were to go overseas", a spokesman said.

- Shop stewards at Scott Lithgow were yesterday assured by senior managers of Trafalger House that the company had no plans to withdraw its bid (Ronald Faux writes).

July 1983	**British Shipbuilders warns of 2,000 job losses at Scott Lithgow after year's loss of £66m in 1982/3 financial year**
Dec 19	**Britoil cancels £88m semi-submersible rig**
Dec 20	**Prime Minister refuses to intervene**
Dec 22	**Workers at yard back call for national strike over pay and conditions**
Dec 30	**Britoil chairman Sir Philip Shelbourne says company is still prepared to talk about rig order**
Jan 5 1984	**National shipyard strike called off**
Feb 3	**Trafalgar House says bid could save 1,500 jobs**
Feb 5	**Bechtel emerges as possible rival bidder for yard**
Feb 7	**Howard Doris expresses interest in yard**
Feb 8	**Trafalgar House signs conditional agreement with British Shipbuilders to acquire yard**
Feb 9	**Government says all bids will be considered**
Feb 13	**BP threatens to cancel its £60m rig order**

Sale room

£2,700 cap among secondhand clothes

By Huon Mallalieu

In recent years car boot and garage sales have proliferated, and it is the dream of every dabbler in antiques to find an unconsidered gem in someone else's junk.

Some months ago Mrs Judith Howard, who lives near Melksham, Wiltshire, achieved just such a coup when she bought a lot for £10 in an informal local sale.

The lot included a colourful cap of notable quality which subsequently proved to be a gentleman's nightcap embroidered with silk and gold and silver thread dating from about 1600.

Yesterday in a sale of costume and textiles at Christie's South Kensington, it was auctioned again, this time going to Cora Ginsberg, a specialist dealer from New York, for £2,700 (estimate £2,000 to £5,000).

This sale, consisting for the most part of what would have been considered until recently to be second-hand clothes, did very well making £67,578 with around 9 per cent bought in over 126 lots. However, given the romantic appeal of the Jacobites, which sometimes translates well into financial terms, one lot might have been slightly disappointing. That was a bishop's mitre which belonged to the last of the Stuart pretenders, Henry IX, the Cardinal Duke of York. It sold for £1,000 (estimate £1,000 to £1,500).

In West Sussex, Sotheby's began a four-day series of sales at their Pulborough sale room with furniture, bronzes and works of art. A pleasing small George III satinwood and rosewood cross-banded secretaire chest of drawers, with shelves above, which dated from about 1790, went to the London dealers A & F Gordon at £6,820 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000), and a private bidder paid £4,730 for a restored set of six George III mahogany dining chairs, from about 1760 (estimate £1,500 to £2,500). The first session of the series produced a total of £150,683 with just under 4 per cent

Building societies seek power to offer all home-buying services

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Building societies should be allowed to offer a comprehensive home-buying service, including conveyancing, an estate agency, structural surveys and insurance broking, the Building Societies Association said yesterday.

It also wants a greater role for societies in shared ownership schemes, power to hold land for housing development, as well as offering cheque books, credit cards, personal loans and hire purchase on the same terms as other financial institutions.

These are the main proposals in the association's report, *New Legislation for Building Societies*, to be submitted to the Government, which has promised legislation on building societies' powers. A consultative document is expected later this year, with legislation in two or three years.

The Government announced last week that solicitors' conveyancing monopoly was to be broken, giving banks, building societies and non-solicitors the right to carry out the work.

The Law Society criticized the association's proposals on conveyancing yesterday, saying there would be "potentially serious conflicts of interest and loss to the public of independent and impartial advice.

"If building societies were able to offer such work, this would inevitably result in a reduction in the freedom of choice available to the consumer, which would result in anti-competitive practices."

Announcing the final proposals, after a year's consultation among building societies, Mr Herbert Walden, the association chairman, said that he would be disappointed if the Government did not give societies the power to extend their activities in most of the areas mentioned.

"The wider activities will greatly strengthen the building societies, and enable them to make a greater contribution to their investors and to the good housing of the nation."

Mr Walden said that they could think of few instances where there might be a conflict of interests, but emphasized that there would be no compulsion on any borrower to use all services. He said there was probably a case for having the estate agency separate from a society's mainstream activity, in the way that Lloyds Bank was separate from its Black Horse estate agency.

The report says that legislation is needed because the existing framework is cumbersome and prevents societies from responding to customers' demands and the housing market's needs as much as they would wish.

Societies also wants the power to hold the freehold or leasehold reversion of homes being purchased under shared ownership schemes.

Mr Walden said they wanted to play a greater part in shared ownership, in which they had limited involvement through housing associations.

The association says increased powers for societies would reduce the number of organizations and individuals with whom buyers have to deal.

"This could help to reduce the confusion and apprehension which many house buyers feel. There would also be the opportunity to speed up the house-purchase process."

The association emphasizes that staff providing such services would be suitably qualified, and that people must retain the freedom to choose their building society, insurance broker, surveyor and solicitor.

● The report also recommends that societies should have limited scope to make unsecured loans, at present all loans have to be secured on property, and the association envisages societies using this to grant loans for furniture and household goods (Peter Wilson-Smith writes).



New look: Hesta, a three-year-old German shepherd, with Dr Keith Barnett after he restored her sight in one eye by removing a cataract. Photograph: Chris Harris

Vets restore sight to blind guide dogs

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The working life of guide dogs and their usefulness to their blind owners is being extended by improved diagnosis and treatment of animals' eye defects.

Veterinary scientists are successfully tackling the paradox that the dogs most suited to be guide dogs, labradors, golden retrievers and German shepherds are also among those most likely to become blind.

Much of the work is being done by scientists of the animal health trust, a registered charity which produced its annual report yesterday. Last year the trust, which has its headquarters in Newmarket, Suffolk, examined about 2,000 guide dogs, including about 900 eye problems.

Dr Keith Barnett, head of the trust's unit of comparative ophthalmology, has performed many operations to retore sight to dogs and other animals. He said yesterday: "It is obviously very important to prolong the working life of a guide dog.

"By using differntial diagnosis procedures, we can recognize which defects are hereditary and which are not."

The address of the Animal Health Trust is Fanwades Hall, Kennett, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 7PN.

Solicitors win scope to control Law Society

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

Rank-and-file solicitors throughout England and Wales have won a fundamental change in the way they vote at meetings of the Law Society, their professional body, giving them greater control over its decisions.

A motion has been carried at a special general meeting, which for the first time enables voting by proxy.

Mr Stanley Best, chairman of the British Legal Association, a finger group of 3,000 solicitors which called for the meeting, said yesterday that the decision was "historic". "For the first time, it gives the hitherto largely silent majority of solicitors the ability to control what the Law Society does in their name", he added.

Under the new system, decisions will no longer be taken by the few hundred solicitors in and around London who can attend the meetings, he said.

The new voting system is likely to be used for the first time on the controversial issue of the way solicitors are insured compulsorily for negligence.

Solicitors generally want a change in the present system, which they argue penalizes small, partner-intensive firms and involves them in subsidizing the wealthier, larger firms.

Doctor's trailing in micro revolution

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The National Health Service is lagging behind in using microcomputers in family doctors' surgeries, a Royal College of General Practitioners, report says.

Dr Norman Stoddart, ICI computer fellow at the college, said yesterday that about 300 of the 27,000 family doctors use micro computers in the surgery, despite their ability to free doctors to devote more time to patient care.

A survey last year of 50 doctors in the British Computer Society's primary health group showed that most used microcomputers to speed up paper work, rather than to help with diagnoses.

The most common uses were to monitor and issue repeat prescriptions; to imporve preventative medicine to call patients in for vaccinations, cervical smears or counselling; and to compile age and sex registers to provide a clearer profile of the doctor's list.

Only four of the 50 used computers for diagnostic purposes.

The college says: "Despite the improvements computers could make in preventing illness, thereby saving health funds, the NHS lags behind in these new developments.

● Paramedical health service staff are seeking increases of up to 60 per cent to restore their pay to the levels of 10 years ago.

Unions representing the 45,000 physiotherapists, radiographers and allied professions have also told the review body that since the Halsbury award of 1974, their pay has declined by between 17 and 40 per cent against the retail price index.

The Government's allowance for pay rises in health authorities' budgets for the next financial year is 3 per cent.

Computers 'draw too few girls'

Only 20 per cent of young people in inner London taking computer studies at A level are girls and only 23 per cent of teachers in the subject are women, according to a survey of computer education to be discussed today.

A report by Mr William Stubbs, the education officer of the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA), which will be submitted to the authority's equal opportunities sub-committee proposes three measures to encourage more women teachers in the subject and to attract girls.

It says that computer studies retraining courses should be offered to teachers employed in London and to teachers who have left the ILEA's employ but wish to return.

Foreign students' fees rise

New rises in fees charged to overseas students at universities and polytechnics in England and Wales were annouced yesterday by Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education. The recommended fee for an arts degree goes up to £3,150 a year and a science degree to £4,150.

Teachers' pay rises 'cut cash for books'

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The level of pay rises for teachers was blamed yesterday by Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education, for the low quality of books and equipment in schools.

He told the Commons select committee on education, that the Government planned for "reasonable" amounts to be spent on books and equipment, building maintenance and teacher training. But this dependeds on teachers' pay rises being kept to 3 per cent this year.

"If the teacher associations succeed in negotiating a pay increase that is more than that for which provision has been made, the extra money has to come from somewhere."

The contribution from the taxpayer and the ratepayer has been already fixed, so the extra money that the teachers have negotiated with their employers for an increase above that for which provision has been made tends to come, alas, year after year, from the maintenance fund and funds put aside for books and equipment."

Teachers' pay awards, the biggest element in the education budget had for many years "raided" cash for books and equipment, he said.

Mr Harry Greenway, Conservative MP for Ealing North and a former head teacher, asked why he did not separate spending on pay from spending on books and equipment, thereby forcing authorities to spend money on certain items. Sir Keith replied that he would be regarded as a potential dictator if he sought such powers.

"Expenditure in real terms per child is at record high levels and the pupil-teacher ratio is at record low levels. But the fact is that there is a limited amount of money, a very large amount of money but limited."

Sir Keith said that his plans to raise standards, outlined in his Sheffield speech last month, would affect primary schools as much as secondary schools. In the former there would be a greater formulation of objectives in terms of skills, knowledge and competence required of each child when moving to a secondary school.

He envisaged that this would involve testing primary school children. On the subject of graded tests for secondary pupils, he said he did not want to suggest that these were a panacea. The benefits of his reforms would be seen after four to five years and full benefits in eight to ten years.

Bad traders blacklist for shoppers

By Craig Seton

Traders who overcharge their customers or carry out poor work will be identified on a "blacklist" in a consumer magazine to be distributed to 60,000 shoppers by the Consumer Services Department of West Midlands County Council.

The decision was taken after departmental checks revealed extensive overcharging and cheating.

It is believed to be the first time that such a step has been taken by a local authority. West Midlands consumer "watchdogs" receive 27,000 complaints a year and initiate about 2,500 prosecutions, but county councillors decided it was time to shame blacklisted traders.

PM's son target of peerage Bill

Mr William Hamilton, Labour MP for Fife central, yesterday tabled a bill which, he says, is specifically designed to prevent the Prime Minister's son Mr Mark Thatcher from becoming an hereditary peer.

He will present the Bill to the commons next Thursday.

Under its provisions no hereditary peerages could be created for former Prime Ministers or anybody else within 90 days of its becoming law. Existing hereditary peerages would disappear on the death of the present incumbent.

Record sales of French wine

The British are drinking more French wine than ever before and sales last year rose by more than 24 million bottles.

In 1983 a record 149 million litres were exported to Britain, 18 million litres more than the previous year, according to Food and Wine from France, the French produce promoter. Champagne sales increased by 28 per cent to 7,600,000 litres.

Architects free to advertise

Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects will be able to advertise in newspapers, magazines or any other printed publication from March 1. The change was agreed by the RIBA council at the end of last year, and comes after members argued that they were at a disadvantage compared with non-members who may advertise under the rules of the Architects Registration Council.

Tatchell still attacked and insulted after poll defeat

By Alan Hamilton

A year to the day since they abandoned their traditional Labour loyalties and delivered to the Liberals an unexpected by-election victory, the voters of Bermondsey return to the polls tomorrow.

It is no more than a parish pump contest in Burgess ward to elect a new councillor, and would be entirely unremarkable but for the fact that the local Labour Party secretary in this depressed south London enclave just east of the Elephant and Castle remains Mr Peter Tatchell, upon whose head was heaped most of the blame for Labour's loss of what it regarded as an impregnable fortress last February.

Mr Tatchell spoke to *The Times* yesterday of how he is still the subject of regular personal abuse and even physical attacks.

"Not long ago I had a bottle thrown at me from a car as I waited at a bus stop. My bicycle has had its tyres slashed and been covered with National Front stickers. Late last year I got on a train in Birmingham and was physically attacked by a crowd of hoodlums; I had to take refuge in the guard's van.

"It can happen anywhere, even going to the shops round the corner. I do not know who these people are, but if they send me hate mail it often has a swastika attached, so I can guess.

"People who insult me in the street always use the same six or seven words of insult, in varying order, and they will tell me to get back to Russia, or even back to Australia. It is anxiety-provoking, but more than that it is just damned annoying.



Mr Tatchell: Loyal to Bermondsey

"For some people I seem to have become a left-wing hate figure and a symbolic punching bag", Mr Tatchell said.

He still lives in a council flat in the constituency and says he has strong supportf rom his neighbours, who are quck to report any suspicious callers to his well-locked front door.

As local party secretary, he is involved in tomorrow's ward election but declines to give details of his work, for fear that people will abuse him in the streets and that opposition parties will make a meal of any comment he makes. Similarly, he refuses to say whether he will be returning to Chesterfield to give support to Mr Tony Benn in his by-election fight.

Teenager 'left girl alive'

Susan Renhard, an art student, was still alive when the teenager accused of her murder left her lying on a footpath in a Peak District beauty spot, a court was told yesterday.

Mr Martin Thomas QC, who is defending Norman Smith, aged 18, added that the jury would have to consider the possibility that someone else came along after Mr Smith left – and that that person was involved in the final killing.

But he told the Nottinghamshire Court: "On any view his (Mr Smith's) behaviour cannot be excused".

Mr Smith would tell the jury that when he left Miss Renhard she was still breathing, and her eyes were moving.

Earlier, photographs of the dead girl were shown to the jury, and Dr Stephen Jones, a pathologist, listed more than 30 injuries to her body. They were mainly abrasions and bruises to her neck, head, arms, hands and legs.

Mr Smith, of Buxton Road, Castleton, Derbyshire, has denied murdering Miss Renhard at Cave Dale, Castelton, on June 27 last year. At the time, she was taking photographs for a degree course at Manchester Polytechnic.

Miss Renhard, aged 21, who came from West Hagley, West Midlands, was manually strangled, the court heard.

The case continues today.

Jameson withdraws libel action against BBC chief

Mr Derek Jameson, the former Fleet Street editor, yesterday halted his High Court libel action against Mr Aubrey Singer, the managing director of BBC television.

However, Mr Jameson, aged 54, the former editor of the *Daily Star* and *News of the World* is continuing his claim for damages against the BBC over a sketch in the Radio 4 comedy series *Week Ending* in March 1980.

Mr Singer, who was managing director of BBC radio at the time, had told the court that he had no knowledge of the content of the programme. It was not his responsibility and he had no editorial function. He said he had no reason for any spite or malice against Mr Jameson.

Having heard the evidence, Mr Jameson's counsel, Mr David Eady QC, told Mr Justice Comyn and the jury that he no longer considered it "right or appropriate" to continue the action against Mr Singer.

The judge asked the jury formally to enter judgment with costs for Mr Singer against Mr Jameson, which they did. He said: "You have taken a very proper course at a very proper time and Mr Jameson has also done so."

Mr Jameson says that the programme made him out to be "illiterate and stupid" and "like a moron". The BBC denies libel and says the programme was fair comment on a matter of public interest.

Giving evidence on the seventh day of the action Mr Guy Jenkin, a freelance scriptwriter, who wrote about two-thirds of the programme complained of, said he looked on what he wrote as "satire".

Regular listeners knew it was not a news programme and did not expect it to be factual in any way, he said. Most people knew it was fantasy

The author of the sketch, Mr John Langdon, said that the idea for it came from an interview given by Mr Jameson to the Radio 4 *Today* programme earlier that week.

Mr Langdon said: "I believed that he was interested in selling newspapers rather than giving them any literary or cultural merit."

His personal view of the *Daily Star* was that it "pandered to the lowest common denominator in content and price". However he bore Mr Jameson no ill feeling.

Most of staff at Cheltenham take offer of £1,000

GCHQ DISPUTE

Most of those on the staff at GCHQ at Cheltenham accepted the Government's option that they be paid £1,000 and undertake not to be members of national trade unions. Mrs Thatcher said during Prime Ministers question time in the Commons.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab) said: coming out against the working people at GCHQ having the right to be in unions is seen as a continuation of the anti-trade union legislation her Government has been passing for some time.

It is bound to give aid and comfort to anti-trade union groups like the pro-Nazi group which is deeply entrenched in the bowels of the Tory party. (Conservative protests). It is bigger than I thought.

Will she explain why she and her Government are so passionately fond of free trade unionism in Poland and are definitely going to kill it if they can in this country.?

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Flannery must be hard put to it for a question. People from all parts of this House fought against Nazi Socialism – people from every part of the House – and we all resent any implication to the contrary.

The majority of those at GCHQ have accepted the Government offer and a minimal number have refused it.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton, South, SDP): Does she accept that the events of the past few weeks have seriously damaged the interests of GCHQ.

In view of the unprecedented steps the Civil Service unions were prepared to take will she negotiate seriously this week to achieve a settlement which will repair that damage?

Mrs Thatcher: I do not accept that serious damage has been done to GCHQ by this. The serious damage was done with the disruption in 1979 to 1981 and that damaged the security of this country.

The essence of the Government case is that the intelligence and security services have always been treated differently and now this security organization has been brought into line with that other treatment.

The majority of people at GCHQ have accepted the option placed before them.

● Later, on a point of order, **Mr Tony Banks** (Newham North West, Lab) said he had learnt this (Tuesday) morning from a constituent who was a civil servant that instructions had been issued by the Civil Service Department that no civil servant would be allowed to take a day of annual leave entitlement in order to attend the lobby of Parliament on Thursday in respect of the GCHQ trade union ban.


Banks: Department's gross interference

The instructions from the department represents (he said) gross interference in the rights of constituents to approach their MP and the right of access of MPs to their constituents a matter of important national significance.

He asked the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill) to use his good offices on the ministers concerned to get the instruction withdrawn.

If his constituent had disciplinary action taken against him by attending the lobby, he intended to make representations to the Speaker that it would be a breach of parliamentary privilege.

The Speaker said he could assure Mr Banks that the rights governing access to the House would be no different on Thursday from any other day.

Government defeated over telephone tapping

TELECOM BILL

A proposal from Opposition peers to include in the Telecommunications Bill a statutory control over telephone tapping was carried in the House of Lords by 17 votes. **Lord Mackay of Clashfern**, the Lord Advocate, speaking for the Government, said that this would be an inappropriate time to make such a change in the law as a case involving the Government was now before the European Court of Human Rights.

The proposal was in a clause moved by **Lord Mishcon**, on behalf of the Opposition, when peers resumed the committee stage of the Bill. He said that it sought to ensure there was a statutory provision for the control of the right of the state to indulge in telephone tapping and to put measures into the Bill for the control and punishment of those who carried out unauthorised telephone tapping.

The clause provided for fines of up to £5,000 and up to three years imprisonment for offences under the section.

Lord Mishcon said he could thank of nothing more annoying than having one's telephone tapped without proper control. There was no desire to impinge upon the proper use by the state of their necessary powers in certain circumstances. It was, however, a right which must be circumcribed properly otherwise it was an invasion of a sacred right. There was no clarity in thelaw as to what the right of the state were and what the rights of the citizen were in this area.

Peers had read this morning in *The Times* of the fact that the Attorney General (Sir Michael Havers) appeared yesterday for the Government in a case which dealt with telephone tapping and the fact that Britain had no proper safeguards and was in breach of the human rights convention.

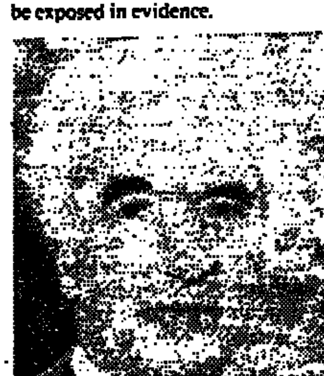
He suggested that if ever there was a topical moment to carry out this clause it was now.

Lord Lloyd of Kilgeran (L), Supporting the clause, said that passing it would be a useful and helpful method of enabling the Government to put itself within the European law in relation to human rights.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern said that only yesterday the European Court of Human Rights were hearing oral submissions arising out of the case of Malone and the decision had been postponed for some time. It would seem to the Government that this would not be an appropriate time for it to attempt to deal with this matter in legislation when there was a case pending that was absolutely germane to it.

Unwarrented telephone tapping was an offence under the provisions of the Bill already. The only question was whether the grant of a warrant by the Secretary of State should be subject to controls which were set out in the statute or should be a matter of the personal administrative responsibility of the Secretary of State for which he was answerable to parliament.

The Government's case must be that the detailed regulation of interception rested on the proposition that to be affective it must be secret. Inclusion of the new clause in the Bill would give private individuals the right to sue the Secretary of State in a civil suit in the courts; the courts would be obliged to adjudicate and all the revelant information would have to be exposed in evidence.


Mackay: Not appropriate time for this matter

Secrecy and litigation were difficult to reconcile. The White Paper on this subject set out detailed administrative procedures and safeguards on behalf of the police, customs and excise and the security service.

A further safeguard was the position of British Telecom. They needed the confidence of their customer and would not put it at risk by allowing any kind of snooping on their customers' communications.

Lord Harris of Greenwich (SDP) said there were three cases in which there was no doubt telephone tapping and mail intervention was right: espionage, international trade in narcotics, and grave offences which could cause loss of life.

The Government had a clear obligation to bring forward legislation of its won if it did not like this amendment.

Britain was once again being dragged to the European Court and it was quite obvious what the judgment was going to be. Britain had already lost the arguments in the European Commission.

The judgment could cause great damage to the international reputation of the country, and could give rise to some views that there was something very mysterious and wrong going on in this area of telephone interception.

Lord Mishcon said it was an extraordinary answer that the reason this was not timely was that they were waiting for the judgment of the European Court. Was Britain again to be forced into legislation, as it was quite obvious it was bound to be?

Was Britain to be forced into legislation because the court had found against it, or were they to adopt an amendment of this kind which would mean not being in breach of the convention?

He did not think the majority of British citizens welcomed the indignity of legislating on that basis.

Where security matters were involved, there was an adequate procedure where proceedings could be held in camera. Therefore they need not tremble on the grounds of publicity.

The amendment followed completely the procedure laid down in the White Paper. It was purely a safeguard for people and a safeguard for Britain's reputation in the world.

This was an opportunity for them all to act in accordance with their conscience and to do their duty without regard to what seats they occupied in the House.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern said, regarding hearings held in camera, it was not publicity that was particularly important. It was that the person who may be the subject of an inquiry should not be informed about the nature of the information on which the warrant was based, or about the source of that information. These matters could involve lives being at stake.

The amendment simply put into statutory form what were the present arrangements under the White Paper. There was no suggestion that the arrangements would be carried out in a way that was any different from now.

They were quite unable to say at this stage what criticisms, if any, the European Court would have of the present arrangements. It had been suggested that the amendment would meet any judgment the court might deliver, but he found it hard to know how that could be said with any confidence.

The amendment was carried by 129 votes to 112 – majority against the Government, 17.

Thatcher defends search for other social security savings

PM's QUESTIONS

The economic situation has improved and in a sustainable way, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during her question time in the Commons.

She also defended the financing of the concession on housing benefit by making economies elsewhere, saying that there would otherwise be a general increase in public expenditure which, sooner or later, would call for a general increase in taxation.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, had criticized the method of financing the small concession by taking benefit from others who needed it.

Mr Patrick Duffy (Sheffield, Attercliffe, Lab) asked her: How does she reconcile the continuing assumption in last week's public expenditure White Paper of nearly three million unemployed, based on social security calculations, with the continuing restraint of public sector capital borrowing taking away defence capital?

What is the sense of depriving town halls and neglecting housing and infra-structure investment when the relevant resources, including the workers, are lying idle?

Mrs Thatcher: Because the resources would have to be taken out of the private sector, where they could be effectively and productively employed, and put into the public sector. The White Paper contained the figures on which we fought the election and received a massive majority.

Mr Kinnock: Did she personally agree to the procedure whereby the concessions made in housing benefit recently announced are to be financed by withdrawing benefits from other groups of needy people?

Mrs Thatcher: We made it clear that this increase on the figure previously announced will be financed by econoies elsewhere. That is right. Otherwise there would be a general increase in public expenditure which sooner or later would call for a general increase in taxation or national insurance contributions.

Mr Kinnock: Much of the concession is to be financed by taking housing benefit from people who need it. The remainder is to come from cuts in other systems of benefit to people who have demonstrated their need by qualifying.

If she needs additional revenue to pay those who need such help, why not take it from the very rich? Why is it always the case that she make the poor pay for the poor and the sick for the sick?

Mrs Thatcher: We are spending something like £3,700m on housing benefit, which is about 80 per cent more than was spent in the lifetime of the last Labour government. He should be the last to complain.

Mr John Farr (Harborough, C): Has Mrs Thatcher seen the notable indicators of further economic improvement (Labour laughter), especially the fact that the gross domestic product in 1983 increased by the biggest amount for the past 10 years and also the greater optimism expressed by many owners of small businesses, and with those two facts which have come to the fore today, will she agree that the economic situation has taken a marked turn for the better? (Renewed Labour laughter).

Mrs Thatcher: The economic situation has improved and has improved in a sustainable way. That is what the Opposition cannot stand.

Mr Ronald Lewis (Carlisle, Lab): Retail prices increases recently published show that more than 1,400 price increases this month alone. Added to that are the rises in gas and elecricity prices fostered by this Government.

With her own wealth, is she conscious that the unemployed and the poor have to shop in the same market as the wealthier section of society? What will she do about it?

Mrs Thatcher: Under the last Labour Government, prices rose by 120 per cent and the record of this Government is the best for 15 years.

Mr James Pawsey (Rugby and Kenilworth, C): What advice will Mrs Thatcher give the electorate at Chesterfield at the present time? (Labour laughter).

Mrs Thatcher: There is no difficulty about that: vote Conservative.

No assurance on warships

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, refused during questions in the Commons to give Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, OUP) an assurance that there would be no question of British warships being engaged in the Persian Gulf in cooperation with American forces.

Another look at Greenham

The **Prime Minister** promised during question time to look again at the matter of the Greenham Common women after a Conservative MP had expressed disappointment that the Home Secretary had said no action would be taken to remove them.

Mr John Townend (Bridlington, C) said: There will be disappointment at the statement by the Home Secretary that no action will be taken to remove the Greenham Common women, although they are causing a gross nuisance in that area.

There is resentment among taxpayers that they are subsidizing them by £800 per week in social security payments.

Mrs Thatcher: I am aware of the distress caused locally by the continued presence of these people. The Government has accepted that it has to give help towards the cost. I share Mr Townend's concern and I will look at the matter again.

Kinnock EEC plan dismissed

The appeal in the New Socialist magazine by Mr Neill Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, for a new deal for Europe was dismissed by Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, during Commons questions as cloud cuckoo land.

Mr Alan Haselhurst (Saffron Walden, C) had said that Mr Kinnock's reference to the need to reject, revise or rewrite the Treaty of Rome indicated that there had been no retreat from the hostility towards the EEC which in the long term did great damage to Britain's interests.

Mrs Thatcher: I saw what Mr Kinnock wrote. That is cloud cuckoo land. We have 10 members of the EEC, about to go up to 12. The prospect of solemnly rewriting the whole thing means that he totally rejects the EEC. It is merely a ploy to get him over the European elections.

MP's complaint rejected

A suggestion that the Government was attempting to confer credibility, legitimacy and dignity on terrorist leaders was rejected by the Prime Minister.

Mr Ian Lloyd (Havant, C), During Prime Minister's questions, asked: Is it Government policy to attempt to confer credibility, legitimacy and dignity on terrorist leaders with the blood of thousands on their hands, by arranging for them to be received by the Foreign Secretary and by offers of scholarships to those they purport to represent? I refer to Mr Sam Nufoma.

Mrs Thatcher: The Foreign Secretary will have heard that. Mr Lloyd knows full well that Government policy towards terrorism is that they are totally and absolutely against the use of violence.

Parliament Today

Commons (2.30): Debates on Opposition motions on problems of the young unemployed and on care of the elderly. **Lords** (2.30): Debate on industry.

Higher subsidy for island shipping

SCOTLAND

Shipping services to the Scottish islands are to get subsidies of £13,350,000 in 1984-85, **Mr George Younger**, Secretary of State for Scotland, announced in a statement to the Commons. This was an increase of 9.9 per cent over estimated expenditure on services in the current year, he said.

Mr Younger said: I propose to give deficit grants of £7.2m to Caledonian MacBrayne and of £900,000 to the Orkney Islands Shipping Company. These grants will limit the need in both cases for the companies to increase their fares to approximately 5 per cent overall for the year.

I propose also to increase support offered to P & O and to the various bulk shipping companies with whom I have undertakings, to allow them to continue to rebate the fares and charges on their services. The rebates are estimated to cost £3.65m in the case of P & O and £1.6m in the case of the bulk shippers.

In total, Government revenue support in 1984-85 will amount to some £13.35m, an increase of 9.9 per cent over the current financial year, and more than a threefold increase since 1978-79. I hope this will be recognised as an excellent deal for the users of these services and for the island communities they support.

I am also able to announce today that I have completed my review of the future system of shipping subsidies and have concluded that a change to a road equivalent tariff (RET)-based system of subsidy should not be pursued.

I have also taken into account several other developments since 1979. First, it has become clear that a period of major new capital investment lies ahead in new ships and in the associated terminals for both Caledonian MacBrayne, services and those serving Orkney and Shetland. There is therefore substantially more public expenditure to be committed on our shipping services than is indicated by the annual revenue grants alone, and it is vial for the maintenance and improvement of these services in the longer term that resources be made available for these capital works.

Second, I attach much importance to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission's general recommendation that in the interests of efficiency Caledonian MacBrayne's fares should be related to costs incurred.

This adds weight to the practical objections to RET. Besides offering no encouragement to efficient operation it would, by stimulating demand, itself increase the need for new investment in shipping capacity. Since the subsidy requirement would be calculated automatically by reference to a formula unrelated to shipping costs, that requirement could change considerably from one year to the next. Sudden increases in subsidy could only be achieved at the expense of other services

It is however important to have a fares system that is clearly understood. P & O and the bulk shippers are private sector operators who fix their fares and charges on a commercial basis

In the case of Caledonian MacBrayne the Monopolies and Mergers Commission noted the company's policy that fares on one route should be comparable with those on another, and that a standard fare scale should be adopted consisting of three elements - pier dues, toll charges (reflecting the cost of loading), and distance charges.

Such a system should produce a structure of fares tapering with distance. The commission noted that no recent progress had been made with this system and that as a result significant anomalies now exist in the fare structure.

They recommended that Caledonian MacBrayne should make renewed progress towards such a system, starting with an up to date examination of the structure of costs. I have asked the company to proceed on this basis.

The new fares system will take some years to implement fully, but a start will be made in fixing the charges for 1984-85, which the company will be announcing shortly. The result will be a standard fares system which should be more equitable than at present.

The question I have had to address is how, in the light of some significant developments since 1979, we can offer the best long term guarantee of services to the Scottish islands. My subsidy proposal for 1984-85 together with my substantial capital support to ships and terminals confirm the Government's continuing commitment to the maintenance and improvement of these services.

Scotland is part of Britain

TOURISM

Scotland had to be vigorously promoted overseas, Mr MacKay, Under Secretary of state for Scotland, said in the Commons when moving the second reading of the Tourism (Overseas Promotion) (Scotland) Bill which extends the powers of the Scottish Tourist Board.

He said that to avoid duplication between the STB and British Tourist Authority, the STB would be able to promote Scotland overseas only with the consent of the Secretary of State who, before giving or withholding consent, would consult the BTA. This did not represent a BTA veto. It would ensure that the STB's overseas activities complemented BTA's promotions.

Some MPs wished to break Britain apart in the tourist industry, just as they wished to do in other industries and politically. This policy in tourism (he said) would be damaging and costly.

Mr James Craigen, an Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said he wanted to be sure that the BTA was not seeking to ease out of the commitment to overseas promotions on Scotland's behalf.

In principle it was undesirable that the BTA chairman should also be the chairman of the English Tourist Board. This was bad for Britain and not good for England, either.

What was expected of the STB was that more people throughout the world would be induced to visit Scotland and be facilitated to do so by direct entry and not in the main by the over-congested, labyrinthine corridors of Heathrow airport.

The Bill was read a second time and later passed its remaining stages.

More people are getting new jobs

EMPLOYMENT

The Government's policy of restraint on public spending was leading to a much lower inflation rate then people had expected, much lower interest rates than many forecasters had indicated, and to the best growth in the economy for the last 10 years, **Mr Tom King**, Secretary of State for Employment, said during Commons questions on unemployment. More people were getting new jobs, he added.

Mr King, amid Conservative cheers, added: For the first time there is a real increase in the numbers at work, which shows that at last we see some real prospects of making an impact on the serious problem of unemployment.

Mr Stanley Crowther (Rotherham, Lab) had asked what effect Mr King expected the White Paper on public expenditure to have on the unemployment figures.

It is obvious (he said) that Government plans for virtually no increase in capital spending will greatly reduce the spending of local authorities in the next three years and put more people on the dole.

Earlier, Mr King said that on January 12 there were 3,199,678 unemployed claimants in the United Kingdom, of which 1,188,039 had been out of work for more than a year.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab): Those figures, of which every member of the Cabinet should feel ashamed, illustrate the immense human misery caused by continued mass unemployment.

Many in their forties and onwards find it increasingly difficult even to be considered for a job and face the prospect of 10 or 15 years on the dole before becoming pensioners. Is this the sort of future the Tories promised in 1979 and 1983?

Mr King said all MPs were aware of the human tragedy contained in the figures. Most also recognized, however, that this serious problem, shared by all western countries, was not best met by sloganizing but by determination to make Britain competitive again and to get improved growth rate.

It has been announced today (he said) that the 1983 growth rate was the fastest in the last decade.

Sir Dudley Smith (Warwick and Leamington, C): The improvement in the economy is expected in both quarters. This underlines the good sense of the Governmemt's policies.

Mr King: We have to become competitive to give us a better chance to improve our growth rate.

For the third quarter of last year, for the first time for four years, there was an increase in the numbers in employment. That is an important step to ensuring more jobs for all our people.

Mrs Angela Rumbold (Mitcham and Morden, C): How many people each day do get a job?

Mr King: It is significant that seven million people got new jobs last year, a figure not often appreciated. There is much greater turnover and more people are getting new jobs. On our estimates there were 250,000 new jobs in the service sector in the past year.

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, said well over three million were out of work and that the Treasury had told the Government that there would not be any change in 1984.

Who does Mr King think (he asked) is responsible for this terrible situation? The Government? If not, after nearly five years of Tory policies, who is to blame?

Mr King replied among Labour interruptions: It would be difficult to exonerate the Opposition from blame. Lack of competitiveness of British industry since the war is to blame. Had we held the same share of our markets of ten years ago there would be 1,500,000 more at work.


Rumbold: How many get a job each day?

He did not expect the figure to stay stubbornly above three million. Some forecasters suggested that during the year there might be a reduction.

Fewest disputes for 10 years

Some 3.6 million working days were lost through stopages due to industrial disputes in the year ending December 31, 1983, the lowest annual total since 1967 apart from 1976, **Mr Selwyn Gummer**, Minister of State for Employment, said during Commons questions. These were provisional figures, he told MPs.

Mr David Knox (Staffordshire, Moorlands, C): That is a vindication of the Government's step by step approach to industrial relations reform. Does the Government intend to proceed cautiously in this sphere?

Mr Gummer: He is right. The Government's arguments are serious, sensible and well founded: those of the Opposition are conservative and reactionary.

Mr John Evans, an Opposition spokesman on employment: Most of the days lost in industrial disputes in the period mentioned were unofficial and settled withing two or three days by the intervention of full-time trade union officers.

There is a fear that the Trade Union Bill before the House will prevent trade union officers intervening in unofficial strikes amd make things worse.

Mr Gummer: The figures do not exist that would prove or disprove that. But there is no widespread fear of that kind. It is a fear invented by the Opposition and pressed hard.

Bread strike threatened

The proposed closure of Scott's bakery in Bootle was likely to cause a national bread strike, **Mr Allan Roberts** (Bootle, Lab) warned the Commons when he unsuccessfully sought an emergency debate on the issue.

Mr Roberts said the Bakers' Union was balloting its members on the closure which would result in the loss of 700 jobs.

On Jaunary 16 (he said) I raised the issue of a dispute at Scotts in this House which I then predicted would be used by the management – Allied Bakeries – as an excuse to close the factory.

This has now happened. Ninety-day redundancy notices were served at the end of last week.

V&A crumbling away as time erodes its meagre resources

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Behind the genteel South Kensington facade of the Victoria and Albert Museum another winter is taking its toll.

At least one acre of the complex's 12-acre roof needs renewing, the third radiator to explode this winter has sent boiling water 30ft up the entrance wall and dry rot is eating its way into the fabric.

According ot one museum oficial the building "has simply outlived its useful life".

The V & A dreads the passing of the time which it exists to record. Last year the museum's inadequate drainage system became so overloaded that every manhole in the building lifted. Scarcely a day goes by without the antiquated electrical system fusing, most recently in the library.

It is all a far cry from the technocratic surroundings of Nato, and Lord Carrington, who will remain the V & A's chairman when he takes over as Nato secretary-general in Brussels, admits that the condition of one of Britain's most important museums has shocked him.

The reason for its plight, he feels, is years of persistent under-funding. The V & A, unlike most museums, has traditionally been funded directly by government, without a board of trustees to fight for it. From April 1, with the former Foreign Secretary in the chair, all that changes.

The trustees selected, at Lord Carrington's instigation, carry a strong pro-business lobby. Among them are Lord Barnett, the former Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Sir Terence Conran and Mr Andrew Knight, the editor of *The Economist*.

"It struck me that we really needed as trustees people who really knew about finance. We wanted people who cared about the arts but could help us on the financial side as well.

"The legacy of it having been run by the Government is that it is very badly under-funded. I think it is disgraceful that the museum has to shut on Fridays. I've seen people outside queuing to get in", Lord Carrington said.

The V&A's problems all come down to one thing: money. It is short of £1m in the present financial year to maintain its crumbling building. To reopen on Fridays would cost a further £250,000. A scheme to continue to widen the main entrance to make it more inviting is being postponed because it has run out of funds.

Will it then start to charge for admission, as the National Maritime Museum intends to do? Lord Carrington hedged on this point: "The trustees would have to look at it, but the *sine qua non* at the moment is that the Government would keep all the money."

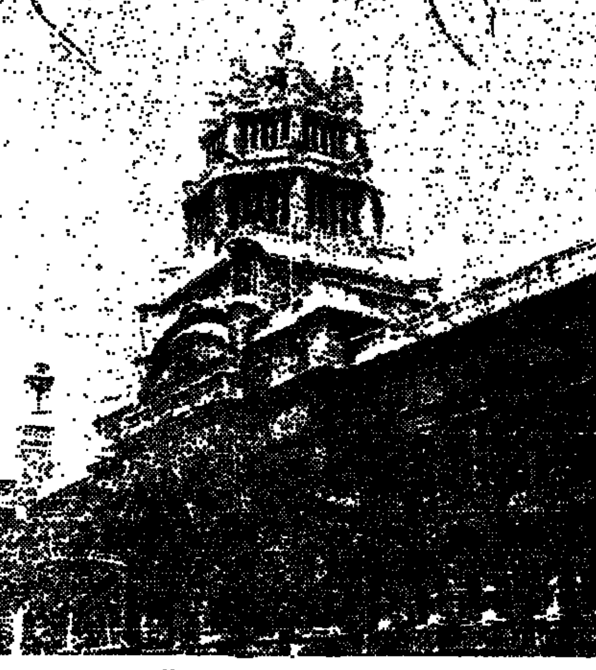
Even if, as seems likely, the Government is about to rule that revenue from museum admission fees will remain with the museum authorities, there is an underlying fear that ticket fees and extra income from any other source may eventually be used as an excuse to cut the present level of museum grants.

One important source of income ought to be industry, but the museum has had to accept that it will find it difficult to compete for private sponsorship with the performing arts.

"It is one thing to pay something towards a performance of Andrea Chenier at Covent Garden, it is another to help out with £2m for the drains at the V&A. The glamour somehow isn't there", Lord Carrington said.

Whatever the future holds, the V&A trustees have come to the conclusion that they should not, as the Government has suggested, take on the running of Kenwood House in Hampstead when the Greater London Council, which runs it at the moment, is abolished.

"I think we already have enough on our hands. If the trustees of Kenwood said they wanted us to run it and there was no alternative, that might be a different matter."



Underfunded: The Victoria and Albert Museum, completed in 1909, and its chairman, Lord Carrington, who hopes to modernize it with sponsorship from industry.

Lord Carrington hopes that industry will enable the V&A to modernize its galleries, in return for carrying the sponsor's name on the result.

He is adamant that Sir Roy Strong, the museum's director, will be proved wrong in his recent pronouncement that financial restraints would kill the large-scale exhibitions which have featured prominently since the 1960s.

"We will jolly well have to raise the money for those. Given the money the museum has had, I think Roy Strong and his staff have done pretty well. But no one is more aware than Roy Strong that given a bit more money, you could transform the V&A."

This year the V&A, which attracts about 1,800,000 visitors each year, will receive £11.379m in government grants, a sum exceeded only by the British Museum with £12.865m. The difference between a modern museum and one which limps along with its present infirmities is, in the context of an arts budget of more than £100m, minute.

"Of course we're talking about peanuts. But the answer of the Treasury to that, as I know, is that everything is always peanuts until you add it up. My job now is to tell them our peanuts are more important. Which, of course, they are", Lord Carrington said.

Aire Valley route to be revived

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

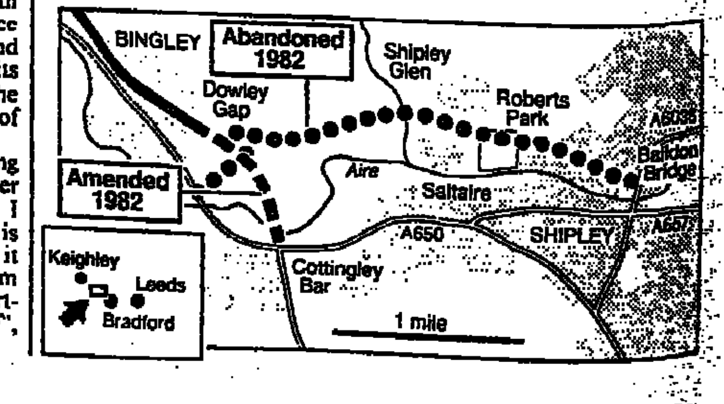
One of the most fiercely contested trunk road schemes of the past decade, through the Aire Valley in West Yorkshire, is to be revived because of doubts that have arisen over the alternative scheme put forward by the inquiry inspector in 1980.

Thirty protesters were arrested when the original scheme, which was to run through Shipley Glen, a well-known beauty spot, and the Victorian model village of Saltaire, first came before an inquiry in the mid-1970s. At a second inquiry in 1980, the scheme was rejected. The inspector described the Department of Transport's proposal as an "environmental disaster of such magnitude that it can never be forgiven"

The Aire Valley Preservation Society yesterday accused the department of trying to reverse its 1980 decision and revive the original scheme.

A spokesman at the depeartment admitted that difficulties had arisen over the alternative scheme. An exhibition would shortly be mounted, he said, at which the public would be invited to assess a number of options. While these did not include the original scheme in full, they might include parts of it.

The Aire Valley route links the A650 from Keighley to Bradford and is used by heavy traffic taking a short cut from the M6 in the Lake District to the M1 at Leeds.



Computer-linked passport feared as threat to civil liberty

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Passports which can be read by computers are seen as one of the threats to individual freedom that the National Council for Civil Liberties aims to tackle up to the year 2000.

Mr Larry Gostin, general secretary of the council, which today celebrates its Fiftieth anniversary, said yesterday that the Government had accepted recommendations that the new system should be introduced.

The International Aviation Commission had recommended their use and the EEC had backed them as a good idea, he said.

The computer would be able to retrieve information on their holders from immigration, the police and security files. But the citizen would have no idea what the information was or whether it was revelant, accurate or current.

The *Data Protection Bill*, now before Parliament, would give no protection to individuals subject to such scrutiny. Mr Gostin forecast that such a system would lead to citicism similar to that expressed about the introduction of plastic national insurance cards.

The council is also concerned about a long-term threat to individuals' and groups' right to assemble, express opinions and to disseminate information in the public interest, posed by the security and secrecy surrounding nuclear power and weaponry.

Other priorities to be announced by the council today as part of its Liberty Campaign, are to reverse the drift into a "law and order society", and to fight for protection from arbitrary arrest and unnecessary detention.

Among the measures now before Parliament concerning the council are the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill; the Data Protection Bill; the Prevention of Terrorism Bill, originally introduced as an emergency measure; and the Telecommunications Bill, which allows wire-tapping on the Home Secretary's warrant, Mr Gostin says.

Another of its priorities concerns the trade unions. "There has been a pattern of attacks on the trade union movement, including the ban at GCHQ, the threat of lie detectors, and political vetting, which will require renewed defence of the legal rights of trades unions."

Mr Gostin said that the NCCL's liberty campaign would bring together a broad alliance of people from across the political and social spectrum. The campaign would include the formation of an all-party parliamentary group.

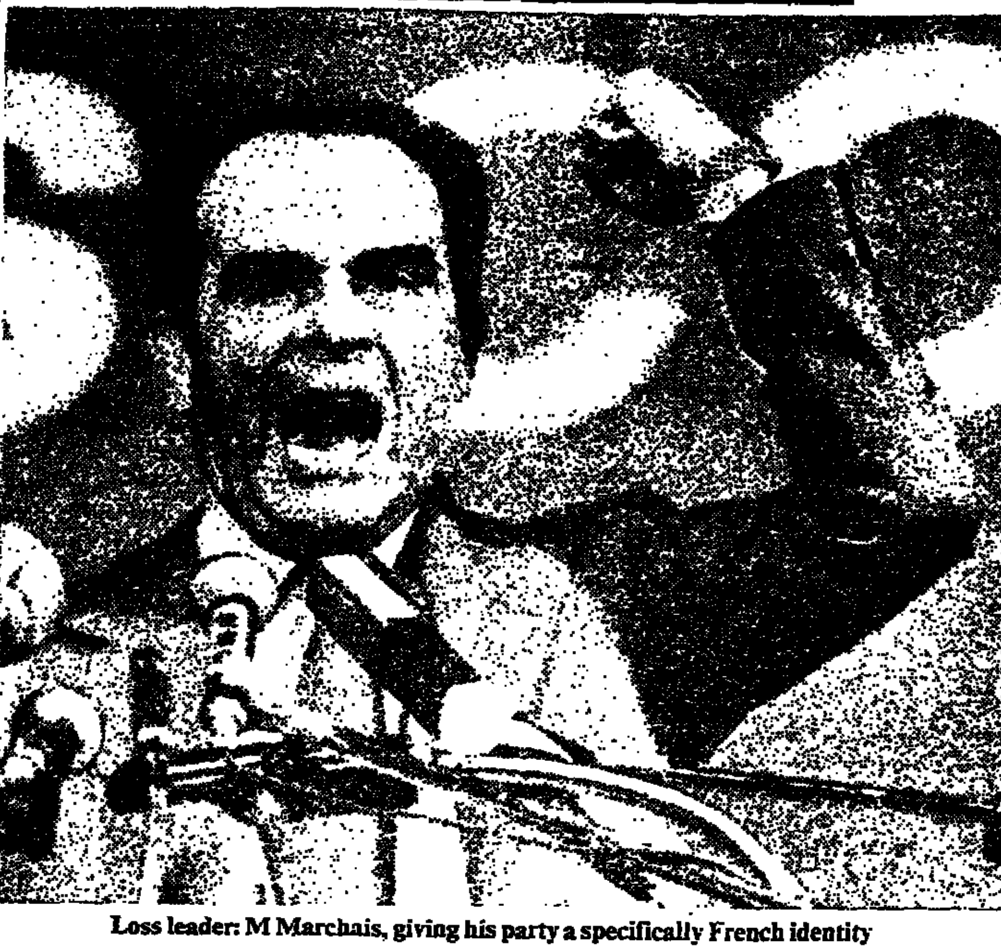
About 1,000 people had signed the NCCL Charter of Civil Rights and Liberties on which the campaign is based. They include 69 MPs and MEPs from all political parties, Mr Neil Kinnock, Mr David Steele and Dr David Owen, Lord Scarman, Lord Elwyn-Jones, and Lord Gardiner have also signed it.

Action by the council will include monitoring and supporting research into the issue of search warrants and assisting victims of unlawful searches to obtain compensation and ensure the destruction of records on them.

The council will represent those who have made false confessions and monitor procedures set out in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill as implemented at police stations. It will also support a private member's Bill to reduce the length of remand in custody to that allowed by the Scottish system: 40 days for summary offences and 110 days for indictable offences.

A Bill to provide for statutory compensation for wrongful conviction will be drafted by the council and published.

Marchais and his reluctant converts



Loss leader: M Marchais, giving his party a specifically French identity

Pravda reaffirms Chernenko's devotion to peace

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Pravda yesterday signalled Mr Chernenko's desire for improved relations with the United States and said a return to detente would have a "positive" effect on the entire international situation."

A front-page editorial said that under Mr Chernenko Russia would be "profoundly committed to peace". It made no mention of Soviet pre-conditions for a return to the Geneva arms talks. At the same time, *Pravda* said, Moscow had to strengthen its defences in the face of "aggressive imperialist Nato Forces", a line taken even more strongly yesterday by Marshal Viktor Kulikov, the Warsaw Pact Commander in Chief.

Writing in *Red Star*, the armed forces paper, Marshal Kulikov said Moscow had to take a clear and explicit stand against reckless adventurist actions by the aggressive forces of imperialism adding that this had been most forcefully reaffirmed at the Central Committee meeting which elected Mr Chernenko party leader 10 days ago.

Diplomats said a struggle between Kremlin doves and hawks had emerged since President Andropov died, with each side using Soviet jargon to emphasize either the dangers of imperialism or the need for *rapprochement* with Washington. Often there were elements of both positions in the same speech, diplomats noted.

Mr Chernenko himself spoke of a return to peaceful coexistence as well as the need for strong defences against hotheaded military adventurists when he appeared on Red Square. He seemed to lay stress on détente however – the policy associated with Mr Brezhnev, his mentor – an impression strengthened when he told Vice President Bush he wanted a more constructive relationship with America.

Pravda said yesterday the deployment of cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe last autumn had complicated the situation. But it avoided recrimination and did not repeat Mr Andropov's demand for Nato to withdraw the missiles before Moscow would consider returning to Geneva. Diplomats said the omission appeared to suggest that Mr Chernenko was keeping his options open. He is expected to define his position in a speech on the eve of the Supreme Soviet elections next week.

An article in *Sovietskaya Rossiya* yesterday by the deputy director of Tass said Moscow favoured "honest, equitable and mutually advantageous cooperation" with the United States.

Mr Gennady Shishkin welcomed President Reagan's call for dialogue but said good intentions had to be substantiated by concrete deeds, including a display of willingness to give up the deployment of medium-range missiles on the very doorstep of the Soviet Union. Diplomats said the phrase could refer either to missile withdrawals or to a freeze at present deployment levels.

Mr Shishkin said Mrs Thatcher – described as Washington's firmest supporter – had changed her views on relations with Moscow, but it would be premature to assume that the West was taking a sensible and realistic approach.

The Soviet press has paid unusual homage to the Brezhnev era – including détente – over the past few days, emphasizing the policies laid down by the 26th party congress three years ago rather than the Andropov era. *Pravda* yesterday carried a long back page article devoted to Mr Aleksei Kosygin, Mr Brezhnev's partner and prime minister. It marked the eightieth anniversary of Mr Kosygin's birth, not hitherto a major event in the Soviet calendar.

Senator William Cohen of Maine left Moscow this week after talks with officials saying he sensed a new willingness to discuss arms control. Mr Cohen, a Republican, supports Mr Reagan's "build down" proposal on strategic missiles under which the superpowers would dismantle two warheads for every new one deployed.

More hardline Soviet speeches yesterday included an attack on "imperialist intelligence services" by General Viktor Chebrikov, head of the KGB. In an address to electors at Sukhumi in Georgia, published in *Pravda* General Chebrikov said the KGB had unmasked scores of agents in recent years

In another attack on the West about Russia's new readiness to discuss nuclear weapons in Europe were devoid of meaning. Tass attacked Mr Richard Burt, US Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, for indicating that Nato deployments would continue, and unlike *Pravda* Tass specifically referred to Mr Andropov's demand that Nato should show "readiness to return to the situation which existed prior to the deployment of cruise and Pershing 2".

Tass said the Western media were spreading rumours invented by themselves about a new Soviet willingness to negotiate, but the Soviet position had not changed. Russia remained ready for "a fair dialogue and fair talks".

Boys 'enjoy' short, sharp shock

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

The short, sharp shocks introduced at detention centres have become more shocking for prison officers than the boys they are supposed to reform.

The first official report on Send, near Woking, Surrey, since the tougher regime began says that once boys learn basic movements, drill becomes "an enjoyable activity".

But supervision of drill parades was "mentioned to us" as not being popular with some staff. Sir James Hennessy, HM Chief Inspector of Prisons, says in his report on the centre, published yesterday.

When the Home Office introduced a drill manual, those staff at Send who had earlier in life learnt how to march, about-turn and salute by numbers, found some movements difficult to execute.

About half the staff had no previous experience of drill instruction or any formal in-service drill training.

Since drill, physical training and inspections are supposed to help to make people fighting fit, it is perhaps not surprising that morale among the young offenders was assessed by inspectors to be very high.

But staff morale has slipped since the new regime was introduced "especially, perhaps, because of the return of some trainess for a second, or even a third sentence". That, the report says, undermined to some extent the initial belief in its deterrent effect.

Although there is no mention of "bull" like polishing boot-studs, part of recruit training in some national service units, the tempo at Send is described as brisk, disciplined and regimented, as specified in the Prison Department guide-lines.

But they allow little flexibility for staff to respond to individual boys' needs and that reduced job satisfaction, the report says. Nevertheless, it finds that staff morale is reasonably good.

The report criticizes a lack of dressing gowns "to preserve human dignity" when boys were admitted: the trainess had to stand on bare tiles: and there was nothing for them to read while waiting, sometimes for two hours.

The Prison Department has acted on the report's suggestion that remedial action be taken.

The report concluded "overall that staff at Send has achieved a fair balance, treating the trainees with tact, humanity, and understanding, while commanding a healthy respect from them".

A dying source of stamps and solace

*The Post Office has decided that about a thousand sub-post offices must close as part of a cost-effective exercise, **Patricia Clough** reports.*

It would be difficult for the people in the simple, grey-washed terrace houses around Lindhurst Road in Worthing, West Sussex, to imagine life without Mr Wyn Lloyd behind the counter in the little sub-post office.

Officially he is the dispenser of their modest pensions and unemployment pay, the source of their stamps and dachshunds' licences, and the person who takes in their parcels and savings. Unofficially he asks after their health if they have not been in for a bit, lends a sympathetic ear for the lonely, and is the general adviser on bureaucratic affairs to the confused.

Yet Mr Lloyd, who is 46, may not be sitting much longer behind the banks of greeting cards and wrapping paper, with the bags of coins at his feet and the rubber stamps at his elbow.

Post Office rules state that there should not be less than a mile between two post offices and this will be applied more strictly in future. Mr Lloyd's is one of three within a mile and the nearest is a main post office.

Mr Lloyd says that it is not just a post office but a kind of service to the local community. "Some old people have no-one but the milkman and myself to talk to all week. It is someone to ask them how they are, to chat away to, to give advice about forms and things they do not understand."

Mr Lloyd had always wanted to be a sub-postmaster from the day he saw a former schoolmate working at a counter. After 17 years it is still the only job he wants to do. However, he has his problems.

First the Post Office "stole our business" by collecting mail directly from the local hospital and offices. Instead of four or five bags of mail piled up in the office every evening there are now only one or two - and some £900 less coming in each year as a result.

Then the Post Office arranged for people to draw benefits monthly or by cheque and the number of pensions - "our bread and butter" - fell by a third. But the overheads stay the same. "It is our wages that keep coming down", he says.

Mr Lloyd is in favour of the Post Office's efforts to get more business. He feels the gas, electricity and water authorities and the local council could give them more business.

On March 4 about 420 representatives of the sub-postmasters will hold a conference to discuss whether to fight the closure plan or simply fight for adequate compensation for those affected.

Meanwhile, four customers have already offered to start up a petition for Mr Lloyd:

Mr Lloyd refuses to worry. "I haven't thought what I would do. I could not survive on just selling stationery, the income is negligible, and there is so much unemployment here. I really don't know what I would do."





Threatened species: Mr Wyn Lloyd faces the prospect of closure with dismay. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

Poole's industry makes it grow faster

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

Forget the Peterborough effect and the magic of Milton Keynes. The fastest growing town is Poole in Dorset, which was awarded its charter in 1248.

According to updated figures based on the 1981 census, the town's population grew by nearly 20 per cent during the 1970s. Poole has a population of 123,000 and could, within a decade, overtake neighbouring Bournemouth, a resort in decline.

Poole's growth is not due to a huge advertising budget. It spends £17,500 a year on self-promotion.

Nor has Poole grown, as with some south coast towns, because of an influx of elderly people retiring to the sun and the sea. "No, it's no costa geriatrica", Mr Ian Andrews, the council's chief executive, says. About 19 per cent of Poole's inhabitants are over the age of 65, against a national figure of 15 per cent. In comparison, Bournemouth has a figure of 26 per cent, and in resorts such as Bexhill pensioners form the majority.

Poole has grown because industry and commerce moved into the seaside town: liked what they found (yachts, the Dorset hinterland of Thomas Hardy, a compliant labour force) and stayed. The roll-call of the town's employers sounds recession proof: Barclays International, Plessey telecommunications and weapons systems, and Ryvita biscuits, Frizell's Insurance.

The old port itself has enjoyed a renaissance; Poole, which boasts one of the largest natural harbours in the world, is rated in the top dozen British ports, compared with sixty-eighth 14 years ago. A freight line runs four daily sailings to Cherbourg, Poole's twin town, which locals note is closer than London.

Mr Andrews says that if natural forces had prevailed, Poole would have gone the way of other south coast towns and become a mere retirement centre. The Conservative council, however, has encouraged manufacturing industry through the provision of factory sites and the building of mainly private housing suitable for younger people.

"We have always wanted a balanced community," Mr Austen Layard, Tory chairman of the policy committee, says.

Poole's growth spurt is not over. Finance permitting, the council wants to provide the infrastructure for a large new industrial estate and see a 500-acre site at Canford Heath developed for housing. "Firms are still knocking at our door, wanting to come," Mr Andrews says.

"We have kept a low profile and not gone in for advertising our charms because we simply have not enough sites to satisfy demand."

Drift back to Moscow after electoral humiliation

*In the third of four articles on the decline of Eurocommunism, **Edward Mortimer** examines the fluctuating fortunes of the French Communist Party.*

EUROCOMMUNISM
Part 3
FRANCE

The conversion of the French Communist Party (PCF) to Eurocommunism was sudden, spectacular and never wholly convincing. Until the autumn of 1975, the party had supported Soviet efforts to convene a conference of European Communist parties which would reaffirm the essential unity of the international Communist movement, and had expressed solidarity with the Portuguese party, which the Italian and Spanish Communists were criticizing for its disregard of election results and attempt to gain power through the armed forces.

Then, in November, 1975, the PCF suddenly aligned itself with the Italians. The two parties published a joint statement stressing a general "concordance of solutions" for situations with a "common character" in highly developed capitalist countries. The PCF joined the "autonomists" who opposed the idea of a unified world communist strategy, and in January, 1976, its leader, M Georges Marchais, announced that his party would drop the term "dictatorship of the proletariat".

He also made it clear that French Communists disagreed radically with the Soviet Union about the nature of "socialist democracy". These positions were ratified by a party congress the next month, while M Marchais stayed away from the congress of the Soviet party – an unprecedented gesture of disrespect. When the conference of European Communist parties finally met in June, 1976, M Marchais criticized the Soviet party to its face, and said he would not attend any further gatherings of this sort.

At the time, most observers saw these moves as intended to facilitate cooperation between Communists and Socialists in France in preparation for the 1978 general election which, it was thought, might bring a left-wing government to power. With hindsight, they can more plausibly be seen as an attempt to compete more effectively with the Socialists, who had recently overtaken the PCF in by-elections and opinion polls, to the latter's acute dismay. When the Communist-Socialist alliance broke up in 1977 (after it had brought the PCF the gains it was looking for in local government), M Marchais insisted that this did not mean any abandonment of Eurocommunism.

On paper, this remains true even if, in France as elsewhere, the word "Eurocommunism" has now fallen out of use. In an interview with *The Times* last month, M Peirre Juquin, the leading intellectual in the party's *bureau politique*, declared that the party had broken completely with the past – "rejected the dictatorship of the proletariat, rejected the Soviet model, rejected Marxism-Leninism, rejected proletarian internationalism".

Yet undoubtedly since 1977, and especially since 1979, its criticisms of the Soviet Union have been milder and less frequent than they were in the mid-1970s and, against the strongly anticommunist climate now prevailing in Frnce, the PCF can often be heard leaping to Moscow's defence. It backed Moscow over the invasion of Afghanistan and (being by then under the constraint of Cabinet solidarity) gave only grudging support to the French Socialist-led Government:s criticisms of martial law in Poland.

This toning down of criticism held true despite the PCF's reservations about President Brezhnev's policies (reservations which it is also displaying for the new party leader, Mr Konstantin Chernenko, who is believed to be unenthusiastic about the PCF's participation in France's Socialist Government).

But the PCF's Eurocommunism was never all that "Euro", anyway, in the sense that it did not mean convergence on a common European position. Rather, it took the form of an attempt to reinforce the party's specifically French identity – and that, on many issues, meant taking positions opposite to those of its Italian and Spanish counterparts. In particular, the PCF is opposed to any supranational development of the European Community, and strongly opposed also to Spanish membership of it. As one would-be French Eurocommunist (Professor Jean Elleinstein) has pointed out, "gallo-communism" would be a better word to describe this attitude.

As is well known, the PCF lost badly in the 1981 elections, and had to accept a small share of power as a favour from its hated Socialist rivals. There is so far no convincing sign of a recovery, as the party now has to share the blame for the left-wing Government's shortcomings. Whether it would have done better with less Eurocommunism, or more, remains a very open question – hotly debated, one suspects, behind the closed doors of the party leadership.

Tomorrow: Greece

Kenya judges examine ex-minister's conduct

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi

Wearing his customary three-piece suit with a rosebud buttonhole, Mr Charles Njonjo, Kenya's former Minister for Constitutional Affairs, this week took his seat in a chamber of the Parliament building for the seventh week of a judicial inquiry into his conduct as a minister.

It was ordered by President Moi last year after he had caused surprise by announcing that unnamed foreign powers were grooming a Kenyan to become president in his place. MPs demanded that the "traitor" be named.

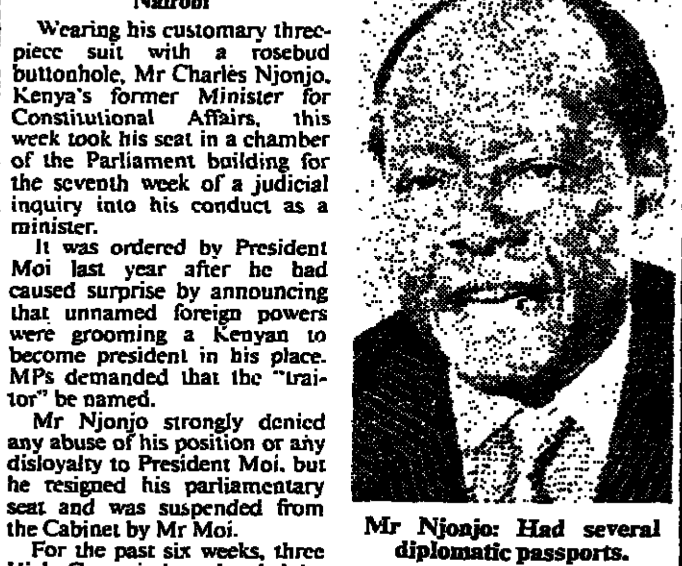
Mr Njonjo strongly denied any abuse of his position or any disloyalty to President Moi, but he resigned his parliamentary seat and was suspended from the Cabinet by Mr Moi.

For the past six weeks, three High Court judges, headed by Mr Justice Cecil Miller, have been hearing evidence from a succession of witnesses who have told how Mr Njonjo was friendly with a rich Indonesian family which maintained a safari camp in Kenya; how he travelled frequently between Kenya and London and how he was issued with several diplomatic passports.

Evidence has also been given that he asked the immigration authorities on several occasions to issue visas for South Africans (normally barred from Kenya) to visit his country.

Witnesses have included the former Commissioner of Police, Mr Ben Gethi, who was retired after an abortive coup attempt in 1982. Making his first public appearance since then, he denied suggestions that either he or Mr Njonjo were linked with the unsuccessful mercenary attemp to overthrow the Seychelles Government in 1981.

Evidence is led by the counsel for the commission, Mr Lee Muthoga and witnesses are



Mr Njonjo: Had several diplomatic passports.

cross-examined by Mr Njonjo's counsel, Mr William Deverill, a Nairobi lawyer, who has asked unsuccessfully for an indication of what kind of evidence is to be introduced. He said he finds it hard to conduct Mr Njonjo's case without such information.

It is not known how long the inquiry will continue. It sits daily from Tuesday to Friday, adjourning each day about 1pm. It attracts a steady audience and each day's proceedings are reported verbatim in the local newspapers.

Mr Njonjo himself is closely searched before entering the chamber, as are counsel and spectators.

So far, a succession of police, customs, immigration and airline officials have given evidence. One said that Mr Njonjo was not charged for his excess baggage when flying by Kenya Airways. Other evidence has suggested that he had more than one passport in use at a time, and that there were no immigration stamps to mark some of his journeys abroad.

Murderer in court over virus threat

From Tony Duboudin
Melbourne

A man serving a life sentence in Townsville's Stuart Jail for murder was yesterday charged with extortion over the threat made last month to spread foot and mouth disease in Queensland.

Peter Vivian Wardrop, aged 37, appeared before Townsville magistrates in north Queensland. He faced four charges, all relating to sending letters containing threats to cause "detriment, particularly economic detriment, to the livestock industry in Queensland by releasing foot and mouth virus if the Queensland State Government did not comply with his demands for prison reform".

The letters, the charges allege, threatened the release of the virus if the state did not comply with the demands within 12 weeks from the date of mailing. Wardrop, who represented himself, was not asked to plead and was remanded until March 16.

Russians scorn British chemical war offer

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Hopes that the Soviet Union would agree to Britain's new proposals for verifying compliance with a treaty banning chemical weapons proved illusory yesterday when Mr Viktor Issraelyan, the Soviet delegate described them as in the category of "maximalist unrealistic demands".

"Even with a microscope", he told the 40-nation disarmament conference, "one would not be able to discover in that (British) document any signs of readiness for compromise". He said the procedures set out in the proposals for inspection by challenge were simply a repetition of "the whole number of tough demands already many times rejected".

While the Soviet Union accepted the principle of challenge inspection, it was adamant that in prauce this could be on a voluntary basis only, with the challenged state having the right to refuse the Western concept of "intrusive" inspection being mandatory – with continued refusal being an issue for the UN Security Council.

Barracks and prison hit in Uganda rebel raid

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi

The National Resistance Army (NRA), which is led by a former Ugandan Defence Minister, Mr Yoweri Museveni, has claimed responsibility for guerrilla attacks on the town of Masindi, 140 miles north of Kampala.

The Ugandan Defence Ministry announced late on Monday that dissident elements had attacked the army and police barracks and the prison in Masindi, but had been repulsed. The Ministry gave no details of casualties.

An anonymous NRA spokesman yesterday said 178 soldiers, 27 police and 18 prison warders were killed, as well as five NRA guerrillas. The attackers stole large quantities of arms and ammunition, he said.

Road blocks were operating round Kampala yesterday and no buses from Masindi arrived there. There were rumours in the capital that some soldiers had joined the guerrilla attack.

NRA guerrillas have been operating for nearly three years in areas between Masindi and Kampala. But in the past year they have been driven back by the Ugandan Army, and Ugandan leaders had said the guerrillas were no longer a problem.

Significantly, however, the Defence Ministry announcement said the Masindi attacks were designed to show that the dissidents had the capability to mount an offensive. Masindi has a large army barracks and this is the first time the NRA is known to have carried out an operation in that area.

African drought victims starve

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

More than 40 people a week are dying of starvation in north-eastern Zimbabwe, mostly Mozambique peasants who had trekked across the border to escape the southern Africa drought.

With the impact being felt with growing severity in Zimbabwe, representatives of Oxfam, the Save the Children Fund and other organizations are due here today to meet medical officials.

An estimated 20,000 Mozambique drought refugees are in remote north-eastern Zimbabwe, where the maize crop has failed for a second successive year. Except for a few who have got work, they depend on local peasants.

Until recently Zimbabwe had by and large escaped the suffering inflicted by the drought on Mozambique, where between 40,000 and 200,000 people died in the second half of last year.

However, Zimbabweans are now also dying of malnutrition. In spite of a US pledge last week of $10.9m (£7m) emergency food aid, prospects are grim.

In reports from the district of Rushinga, the Ziana news agency quoted officials as saying that between five and seven Mozambicans were dying at a squatter camp every day. Women were arriving at the local hospital with dead children.

Mr Kanyandura Kanyau, district administrator of Rushinga, said the death rate had doubled in the past three weeks.

Local headmasters have told officials that their pupils face starvation. One said: "We are going to lose a good number before the year ends."

Mr Kanyau said the Government had made no provision for the influx of Mozambicans and what aid they were receiving came out of the inadequate rations provided for local people.

Saudi unease at policy of US adds weight to Prince's British visit

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Unease in Riyadh over American policy in Lebanon and elsewhere in the Middle East, is lending importance to the arrival here today of Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz al Saud, crown prince of Saudi Arabia and the second most powerful figure in that Gulf kingdom.

He comes for a three-day official visit at a time when President Reagan's failure to make a stand over Israeli settlements on the West Bank and now the intensive shelling by American warships of the hills around Beirut, have made King Fahd anxious to distance himself from Washington.

Three Cabinet ministers, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr Michael Heseltine and Mr Norman Tebbit, have been to Riyadh within the last month. Prince Abdullah, younger brother (by three years) of King Fahd, has chosen Britain for his first visit outside the Arab world since becoming Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister two years ago.

This is being seen in Whitehall as something of a fillip for Britain's Middle East policies, particularly given Saudi Arabia's influential role in the three issues – Lebanon, the Arab-Israeli dispute and the Gulf War – which are dividing the Middle East and much of the world outside.

The Crown Prince is 60 this year and was last here in 1973 when, as commander of the Saudi National Guard, he was a guest of Lord Carrington, then Defence Secretary. The National Guard still comes under his control.

No longer is one likely to be thrown down the steps by mentioning *Death of a Princess* inside the Foreign Office. The two governments, for the time being anyway, see eye to eye on a number of issues – including oil pricing.

What passes for a recession in Saudi Arabia, has recently forced Fahd to draw on his country's $100,000m (£69,444m) reserves. But government spending has been adjusted accordingly and the Saudi policy of investing national wealth inside the country instead of abroad, has helpd to ensure that the discontented remain in a minority.

Only 4 per cent of the population are Shia Muslims, and Islamic fundamentalists could hardly accuse teetotal Riyadh, guardian of the holy places, of turning its back on the Koran.

Several years ago Prince Abdullah felt obliged to pledge his loyalty to his brothers, King Khaled and the then Crown Prince Fahd – after Western press reports had referred to family feuding over the succession. But no real evidence emerged.

More menacing in Saudi eyes is the spectre of a powerful revolutionary Iran, able and willing to upset the delicate power balance in the Gulf.

The Anglo-Saudi relationship is not without its black spots, however. Ministers will be under pressure to raise with the Crown Prince a number of consular matters – including the case of Mr Keith Carmichael whose local business collapsed with alleged debts of £1m three years ago and who has been lying injured in a crowded Saudi jail ever since.

A Foreign Official said last night that a report on the collapse of Mr Carmichael's business had recently been passed by Saudi authorities to the governor of Riyadh who was reviewing it.

Mr Carmichael's plight was raised by Sir Geoffrey Howe when he was in Riyadh last month, since then the British Embassy had kept in close touch with developments. It is hoped that the governor's review will lead to an early solution.



Israel sure Druze will keep out the gunmen

From Ian Murray
Brussels

The Druze militia have told Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, that they will not allow Palestinian gunmen to establish themselves in any positions on Lebanese territory, he said in Brussels yesterday.

He said he had contacts with all the Lebanese communities. Israel's sole aim in remaining in southern Lebanon and its present bombing raids was to protect its northern borders.

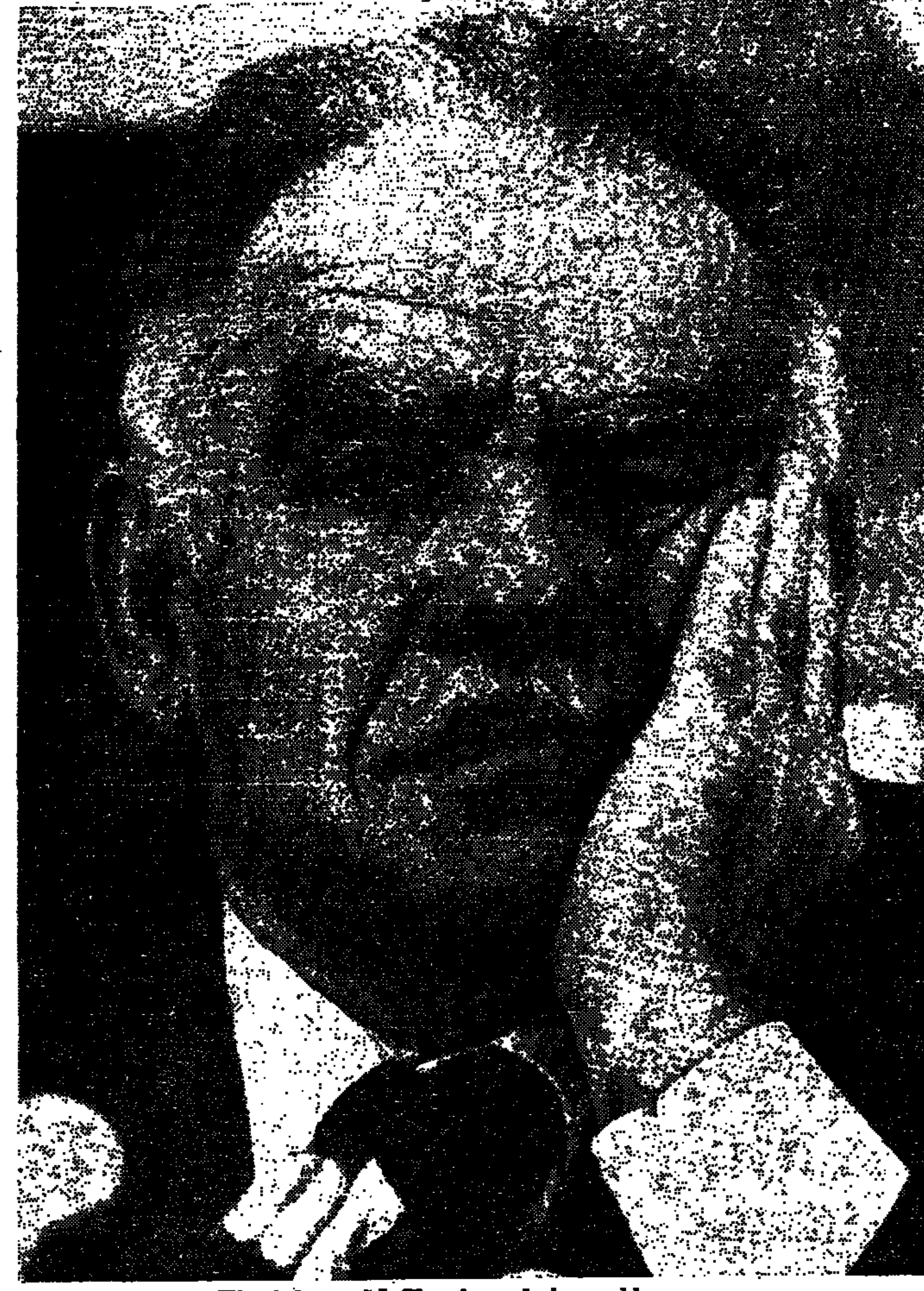
Israel would not withdraw from Lebanon until the border was secure. He had hoped the Lebanese army would have been able to do this, but if it was not, "then we could come up with another Lebanese force which might be able to safeguard the interests of the population".

The Israeli leader ruled out the idea of an American or UN force moving into southern Lebanon. "We do not believe that the US can play any role in the south of Lebanon."

As to the UN, Israeli experience had shown that its troops could act as a buffer only if the armies on either side had agreed to stop fighting. "The UN cannot guarantee our frontier against terrorism."

Israeli tactics were solely directed against ending terrorism inside Israel. Patrolling by Israeli troops north of the Awali river did not mean the Army intended to move north.

Mr Shamir was in Brussels to talk to EEC foreign ministers about the effects of Spanish entry on trade with Israel. He was concerned that enlargement of the Community would do considerable harm to exports of fruit and vegetables. He agreed to more talks.



Worried man: Mr Shamir pondering problems

Nicaragua brings poll forward to November

Managua (AP) – Nicaragua's Sandinista Government announced elections on November 4 to vote in a President, Vice-President and 90 members of a constituent assembly. Both officials will take office on January 10, 1985 and serve six-year terms.

Thousands of Nicaraguans crowded the Plaza of the Revolution to hear leaders of the left-wing government make the long-awaited announcement. Polling in 1985 had been expected.

A woman runner handed over a torch carried into the plaza by a group of runners to commemorate the guerrilla struggle of Augusto Cesar Sandino, killed 50 years ago.

Ship stopped in sub search

Karlskrona (AFP) – Sweden refused permission to a Soviet cargo vessel the Volgoblat, to enter the port of Karlskrona where military units have spent the past 13 days searching for an unidentified submarine.

A submarine could easily escape undetected in the wake of a merchat ship, a Defence Ministry spokesman said.

Tribal wooing

Islamabad (Reuter) – President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan has urged his Communist Party to strengthen the country's tribes, the "first line of defence against imperialism". The economy of tribal areas should be promoted to help stop guerrilla infiltration from Pakistan, Kabul radio quoted him as saying.

Pen guns

Brussels (AFP) – Belgian police arrested a 23-year-old man who made a living by maufacturing ball-point pens that shot ·22 calibre bullets, deadly at a range of up to three or four yards. A Frenchman found with 200 of the guns in his car was also held.

Pilots sacked

Karachi (Reuter) – Pakistan's state-run airline PIA sacked five senior pilots for "spreading unfounded rumours, holding clandestine meetings and creating alarm and despondency." Three years ago it dismissed several thousand employees after a martial law decree banned unions in the airline.

Dhaka defiance

Dhaka (Reuter) – Bangladesh's opposition parties, defying a ban on free political activity, staged protest marches and anti-martial law rallies after ceremonies honouring national heroes. Police and security forces stood by silently. A protest general strike is due on March 1.

Li's visit

Islamabad (AP) – In his first overseas trip since his inauguration last year, President Li Xianian of China will pay a four-day state visit to Pakistan starting March 5. President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan visited China in October.

Envoy hurt

Caracas (Reuter) – Venezuela's Ambassador in Guyana, Señor Sadio Garavini was wounded in the eye and his wife shot in the leg by assailants who surprised them at their home in Georgetown.

Mixed blessing

Brussels: – British and Irish residents in Belgium are to be given the right to vote for Belgian candidates in the European direct elections in June. But voting is compulsory in Belgium and anybody who fails to go to the polls will be prosecuted.

Owen tells EEC to widen scope of defence

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The EEC must widen its scope to take in defence and disarmament if it is ever to be stable, Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, said in Brussels last night.

The former Foreign Secretary said it had long been clear that NATO was insufficient by itself and needed the underpinning of the European Community.

The need was for a new political cement to hold the Community together. "If you go on just talking about butter and wine you will not catch the public imagination." He said that the Community was based on too narrow a canvas, divorced from the broader and political imperatives of European security.

In his view it was necessary to extend the competence of the EEC to cover disarmament and security. It was essential for defence procurement to be workd out in common and to stop the unbalanced trade in arms from the United States to Europe.

European defence inhibitions about the nature of the American nuclear guarantee had led to ambivalent and often contradictory feelings about American nuclear policy.

Nato's reliance on nuclear weapons continue if nothing were done to reverse the pattern of European defence spending over the next five years.

"We must generate a new dynamic and set it in the context of Europe's political development," he said. Only by involving defence subjects along wiht trade would the Community carry enough weight to make its voice heard properly in the outside world.

Dr Owen took a swipe at Mr Neil Kinnock's recent conversion to the idea of a new conference to plan a rebuilt EEC. "Abandoning the open commitment to withdraw from the Community they now say start again. When the inevitable cracks appear in any new building they cry 'pull it down'.

"The real challenge is to make the existing structure work, not be papering over the cracks, but by shoring up the foundations and removing some of the superstructure."

Leading article, page 15

Poles appeal against priest's transfer

From Our Correspondent, Warsaw

Parishioners in the Warsaw working class suburb of Ursus yesterdayu continued their protest against a decision by Cardinal Jozef Glemp to transfer a popular pro-Solidarity priest, the Rev Mieczyslaw Nowak, to a remote rural parish.

A delegation was sent to Cracow to appeal for the priest's reinstatement to Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, Poland's senior church leader in the absence of Cardinal Glemp, now on a tour of Brazil and Argentina. Fathjer Nowak's fiery sermons attacked the regime have angered the Polish authorities.

Twelve parishioners were staing a hunger strike, drinking only tea and water, in a back room of the modernistic St Joseph's church near the Ursus tractor factory, a Solidarity stronghold. Dozens of others are maintaining a round-the-clock vigil in support of the strikers and collecting signatures to a petition.

The protests have been a source of embarrassment for Cardinal Glemp, but are unlikely to produce results. Bishop Kazimierz Romaniuk, an aide to the primate, told the parishioners that there were no legal rounds on which to change the decision. In an unusual display of defiance by usually devout and obedient church goers, about 2,000 worshipers on Saturday heckled a Warsaw dean who called on the congregation to accept the change "in peace and God's discipline".

Cardinal Glemp has said the priest's removal was not a political but actually represented a promotion since Father Nowak would be senior pastor in the countryside parish of Leki Koscielne, a collection of villages about 65 miles west of Warsaw.

The Primate's action has dismayed Solidarity supporters who view it as a major concession to the Communist authorities who have accused Father Ndwak, along with other militant priests, of "abusing religious freedom". Church sources suggested that the primate wanted to protect Father Ndwak, who has a heart ailment and was called in for questioning by police last week about his ties with Solidarity.

Cardinal Glemp has sought to improve strained church – state relations since his meeting in early January with the Communist leader General Jaruzelski. The Primate is concerned lest clergymen stir up unrest among workers upset about economic hardships.

He fears that further disturbances would be futile and might jeopardize the church's quiet diplomacy to secure the release of political prisoners and set up a church-backed fund to aid Poland's private farmers.

Freed UN employee says she was not CIA spy

Warsw (Reuter) – Alicja Wesolowska, a Polish United Nations employee freed from jail at the instigation of Señor Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary General, told reporters she stood by her denial that she had spied for the United States.

Mrs Wesolowksa, aged 39, was resting at her parents' home at Torun in nothern Poland after her release on Monday from a prison near Zielona Gora in western Poland.

She looked well and was in good spirits after serving four years of a seven-year sentence passed in 1980.

She told Western reporters that she had never been a CIA agent as the Polish authorities alleged when she was arrested in Warsaw in 1979.

At the time, she was a member of the UN Secretariat and was on her way to take up a UN post in Mongolia. Mrs Wesolowska said she planned to remain in Poland

She was released after Sñor Pérez de Cuéllar raised her case with the Polish Prime Minister, General Jaruzelski, during a four-day visit to Poland

The government press spokesman Mr. Jerzy Urban refused to comment on optimism expressed by Señor Pérez de Cullar regarding the future of 11 dissidents and trade union activists who are awaiting trial on charges of plotting to overthow communist rule.

Colorado senator springs surprise

Flashing smile conceals a hard Hart

From Nicholas Ashford, Des Moines, Iowa

After Mr Walter Mondale, the candidate with most reason to be pleased with the outcome of the Iowa caucuses is Senator Gary Hart from Colorado, who finished second with 16 per cent of the vote.

Two months ago, it looked like his campaign, heavily in debt, was heading towards oblivion. Now he has suddenly become the leading challenger to Mr Mondale for the Democratic nomination, a role likely to be further consitidated after next week's primary in New Hampshire.

Senator Hart's success in Iowa was largely due to hard work, although he likes to believe that his "new ideas" on a range of issues also won voters – particularly the young – to his cause. Desperately short of money and staff, he spent more time electioneering in Iowa than any of his seven rivals, driving around in a van and making as many as 10 campaign stops a day.

One lesson I learnt from George McGovern is the importance of grasstroots campaigning in Iowa," Mr Hart told me during an hour-long interview last Sunday.

Aged 47, he was Mr McGovern's campaign manager in 1972 when the former Senator from South Dakota was catapulted into prominence by his unexpectedly strong showing in Iowa.

Until the Rev. Jesse Jackson joined the race, Mr Hart was the youngest of the Democratic candidates. He emphasized his relative youth and uses it to project himnself as a new kind of leader with new ideas. This has earned him the epithet of an "Atari Democrat".

He believes the party cannot hope to defeat President Reagan as long as it is still associated with the high-taxation, heavy-spending policies of the past. Mr Mondale, in particular, is part of that discredited past.

In speeches and debates, Mr Hart has sniped at Mr Mondale for his role in President Carter's despised administration, for being subservient to trade unions and for being too cautious.

"My candidacy offers an alternative between two discredited pasts," he told me – "the outworn positions of Reagan Republicans, who care only for a few, and the outmoded ideas of those Democrats who promise everything to everybody".

By emphasizing his youth and devotion to new ideas, Senator Har is trying to present himself as the John Kennedy of the 1980s. His craggy good looks, athletic build and flashing smile are all remniniscent of JFK. He even uses Kennedy's self-description – "an idealist without illusions" – about himself.

Missionaries on trial: Father Niall O'Brien (second from left), of Dublin and Father Brian Gore, from Perth, Australia, who have been accused of murder, with co-defendants in Bacolod City jail, the Philippines. Their trial begins tomorrow.

Argentina accused of handing back exiles

By Our Foreign Staff

More than 90 Paraguayans have disappeared inside their country or in neighbouring Argentina since the mid-1970s, according to an Amnesty International briefing published today.

The human rights organization says that about 50 Paraguayan exiles living in Argentina after the military coup there in 1976 were abducted by members of the Argentine security forces, and had since disappeared. In a number of cases, there was evidence that "the victims were handed over to the Paraguayan security forces."

Former prisoners had reported that some of the "disappeared ones" had died under torture or were illegally executed while in custody.

Amnesty says that it continues to receive reports about the torture of political prisoners in Paraguay. In October 1983 these were 50, compared with several hundred each year during the 1970s. Most of those in this category were considered prisoners of conscience.

Torture sessions are said to take place usually at night, with methods including the use of electric prods and the plunging of a victim's head into water, sometimes polluted with excrement, to the point of asphyxiation. The main purpose was "apparently to discourage any opposition to the government."

After claims of torture by a number of prisoners last September, the police chief of Asunción, the capital, blamed lawyers attached to the *Comite de Iglesias* (churches' committee) for this publicity and said that they were acting on instructions from the Communist Party.

Special Briefing on Human Rights Violations in Paraguay (Amnesty International, British Section, 5 Roberts Place, EC1R OEJ, 50p including postage).

Law Report February 22 1984

Reservations about rejecting affidavits

Paclantic Financing Co Inc and Others v Moscow Narodny Bank Ltd

Before Lord Justice Waller, Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Robert Goff

[Judgment delivered February 21]

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the fifth plaintiff, Mr Edward Wong Wing Cheung, from Mr Justice Webster who on April 30, 1982 (*The Times* May 5, 1982), refused an application by the defendants, the Moscow Narodny Bank Ltd, for summary judgment under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court on a counterclaim, but making the fifth plaintiff's leave to defend the counterclaim conditional upon his paying into court the sum of US $3.5m.

Mr Robert Gatehouse, QC, and Mr Steven Gee for the fifth plaintiff; Mr Samuel Stamler, QC and Mr Nicholas Strauss for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF, giving the judgment of the court, said that the fifth plaintiff, who was generally known as Mr Eddie Wong, appealed on the basis that he should have been given unconditional leave to defend.

The counterclaim against him concerned a number of advances of substantial sums of money made by the defendants to the first five plaintiffs, four of whom were companies controlled directly or indirectly by Mr Wong.

Mr Justice Webster, hearing the defendants' application for summary judgment on a part of the counterclaim, had isolated eight issues of fact alleged by Mr Wong to be triable issues. He had held Mr Wong's evidence in respect of four of those issues to be "almost wholly incredible" and in relation to the defence as a whole that Mr Wong's case against the bank was "shadowy".

The present appeal was concerned only with three of those eight issues, in relation to which the court had heard very full argument from counsel and had been referred to a large number of documents. Their Lordships had considered all the matters with care, and in their judgment it was a classic case where leave to defend should be made conditional upon a payment into court of at least a substantial part of the entire sum at stake. It followed that the appeal would be dismissed.

However, there was one observation their Lordships wished to make about the judgment of Mr Justice Webster. After hearing a full citation of authority, he had expressed an opinion about the circumstances in which a court might reject affidavit evidence on a summons under Order 14.

He had said that an affidavit should be rejected only if it was inherently unreliable because it was self-contradictory, inadmissible or irrelevant; that it should not be rejected if, because of its inherent implausibility or its inconsistency with other evidence it was found to be incredible or almost incredible; and that in the rare case where affidavit evidence could be rejected, he could, but would not necessarily conclude that on the evidence not even a faint possibility of a defence existed.

That point had not been fully argued before their Lordships who, accordingly, desisted from expressing any concluded view upon it.

They wished, however, to express their reservations about a statement which sought to categorize, in exclusive terms, the circumstances in which such affidavit evidence could be rejected.

Solicitors: Holman, Fenwick & Willan; Slaughter & May.

No rules on summary removal from UK

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Mustafa

Part 12 of the Statement of Changes in the Immigration Rules (HC 169) related to persons subject to deportation under sections 3(5) and 5 of the Immigration Act 1971, not to persons subject to summary removal as illegal immigrants under section 4 and Schedule 2 of that Act. There were therefore no rules regulating the exercise of the power of summary removal, and section 3 did not impose on the secretary of state any obligation to make such rules.

Mr Justice McCullough so held in the Queen's Bench Division on February 20, dismissing an application by Mr Mehmet Cemal Mustafa for judicial review of a decision of an immigration officer on January 11, 1983, to treat the applicant as an illegal immigrant on the basis that he had obtained leave to enter the United Kingdom by deception, and to give directions for his removal.

HIS LORDSHIP said that there was a discretion where a person had obtained leave to enter by deception and had overstayed that leave to treat him either as an illegal immigrant, subject to summary removal, or as an overstayer who, although subject to deportation, had a right to remain here while pursuing his statutory appeal against the deportation order.

Although the exercise of that discretion was judicially reviewable, it was difficult to conceive circumstances in which it could be shown that that exercise had been so unreasonable as to be unlawful.

There was no obligation on the secretary of state to give reasons for the way in which his discretion had been exercised.

European Law Report — Court of Justice of the European Communities

Conservation orders within EEC law

Gewiese and Mehlich v Mackenzie

Case 24/83

Before: Judge J. Mertens de Wilmars, President, and Judges T. Koopmans, K. Bahlmann, Y. Galmot, P. Pescatore, Lord Mackenzie Stuart, A. O'Keeffe, G. Bosco, O. Due, U. Everling and C. Kakouris.

Advocate General: Sir Gordon Slynn

[Judgment delivered February 14]

By the West Coast Herring (Prohibition of Fishing) Order (SI 1978 No 930) the United Kingdom prohibited herring fishing in the area designated Division VI by the International Council for Exploration of the Sea (ICES).

The Order was based on a Commission proposal to reduce to zero, in accordance with ICES recommendations, the total allowable catch of herrings in that area and the Commission expressly approved the order in December 1978. A small area of water covered by the Order lay on the Northern Ireland side of the median line between Scotland and Northern Ireland. That area was not within the scope of the enabling powers of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967. The United Kingdom Government corrected the error by making two separate orders: the West Coast Herring (Prohibition of Fishing) Order (SI 1981 No 585) and the North Coast (Prohibition of Herring Fishing) Regulations (Northern Ireland) (SI 1981 No 100) which entered into force on May 1 and April 27, 1981, respectively.

On July 10, 1981, two German fishing boats were arrested by the United Kingdom authorities while fishing for herring off the west coast of Scotland in the area covered by the May 1, 1981 Order. They were tried and convicted of contravening the Order and their catches were confiscated. They appealed by way of case stated and the High Court of Justiciary referred the matter for a preliminary ruling.

In its judgment the Court of Justice of the European Communities held as follows:

The member states might, in the case of inaction by the Council, bring into force interim conservation measures but must, within the framework of the general task of supervision which article 155 of the Treaty entrusted to the Commission, comply with the procedural and substantial conditions laid down by the Council in Annex VI of the Hague Resolution of November 3, 1976, confirmed by the Council declaration of January 31, 1978.

In consequence, a member state must not bring national conservation measures into force until it had sought in good faith the approval of the Commission. The 1981 Order entered into force on May 1, 1981 but was not notified to the Commission until May 4. That condition was not therefore satisfied.

The procedural rules in question were intended to ensure compliance with the substantive conditions laid down by the Council, which were binding on the member states, in a situation marked by a failure to implement a common policy regarding the conservation of fishery resources.

The requirements inherent in the safeguarding by the Community of the common interest and of the integrity of its own powers imposed upon the member states in such circumstances the obligation not to lay down national conservation measures in the face of objections, reservations or conditions which might be formulated by the Commission.

In principle, no fresh consultation of the Commission was required in the case of the re-enactment by a member state, without substantive amendment, of a national measure for the conservation of fishery resources which was adopted previously in conformity with the procedural and substantive conditions laid down by Community law.

The notification of new national measures nevertheless continued to be necessary, in order that the Commission might be accurately informed of the state of the law in force in the various member states.

It was argued that a situation might arise in which a national conservation measure previously adopted in compliance with Community law could not be retained without substantive amendment, that is, where the trend revealed by the relevant available scientific data showed that the earlier protection measures were no longer strictly necessary for the management and conservation of resources.

It was therefore for the national authorities to take the initiative by amending their rules, in conformity with the procedural and substantive conditions referred to above, in order to adapt them to the new situation.

That argument could not be upheld. It failed to take account of the power vested in the Community since January 1, 1979 to adopt measures for protection of the biological resources of the sea.

The determination that the former rules on protection were no longer appropriate in the light of scientic information newly available and the adoption of the measures called for by that situation were therefore matters exclusively for the Community authorities.

For those reasons, the court held that no fresh consultation of the Commission was required in the case of the re-enactment, without substantive amendment, of a national measure for the conservation of fishery resources, which was previously adopted in conformity with the procedural and substantive conditions laid down by Community law.

Pretoria wields big stick despite peace initiative

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A non-agression pact between South Africa and Mozambique could be formally concluded at a summit between Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, and President Machel, it was being suggested here yesterday, after Monday's talks in Maputo at which the principles of such a pact were agreed.

Pretoria's sudden switch from aggression to détente in its dealings with its black neighbours is as puzzling to many South Africans as it must be to outsiders more used to news stories of verbal insults, guerrilla attacks and military reprisals.

The truth is that South Africa's regional strategy has always been a judicious mix of the military and economic bludgeon on the one hand and the conciliatory diplomatic overture on the other. Pretoria is talking softly now, but it is still carrying a big stick behind its back.

The conciliatory phase seems to have begun in the final quarter of last year after the case of Angola and Mozambique. There had been contacts and meetings for a year or more before that, but these did not produce any clear results.

A nadir in relations with Mozambique was reached in the middle of last year after the car bomb on May 20 in a crowded Pretoria street which killed 19 people and wounded more than 200. Responsibility was claimed by the banned African National Congress (ANC).

South Africa responded at once with an air raid on alleged ANC houses in Maputo, where the car bombing was said to have been planned. In October, Pretoria sent a commando unit to bomb an ANC office after sabotage of petrol storage tanks at Warmbaths in central Tranvaal.

Later in October, President Machel made a tour of European capitals in which he acknowledged his country's desperate economic plight and his desire for a fresh start in relations with Western countries and South Africa.

This was followed at the end of November and in early December by a European tour by Mr Pik Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, who also had a crucial, though at the time little noted, meeting in Rome with Dr Chester Crocker, the American Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs.

January 16 saw the first breakthrough with simultaneous meetings in Maputo and Pretoria of working groups on a range of security and economic issues. These paved the way for last Monday's historic ministerial-level meeting in Maputo, which thrashed out the terms of a non-aggression pact.

The pact will in effect require Mozambique to curb the activities of the ANC, and South Africa to cease its active, if covert, support of anti-government insurgents in Mozambique.

Pretoria came close to a ceasefire agreement with Angola in December, 1982, after talks on the Cape Verde Islands, with Luanda. That initiative collapsed, however, after Swapo guerrillas based in southern Angola launched a rainy-season offensive against South African-occupied Namibia early in 1983.

There was little movement until Mr Pik Botha's December meeting in Rome with Dr Crocker. It was here, apparently, that South Africa was persuaded to make its offer of a trial ceasefire in the Angloa-Namibia border region.

This proposal was duly presented at the United Nations, although its significance was somewhat blurred by the simultaneous launching of a substantial South African military incursion against Swapo bases in Angola.

As late as January 20, the prospects for a ceasefire looked dim after Mr Botha had publicly rejected the terms of Angola's response to the proposal. However, after talks in Cape Town on January 28 with Dr Crocker, Mr P. W. Botha announced in Parliament on January 31 that South Africa had been disengaging its forces from southern Angola.

On February 16 in Lusaka, the Zambian capital, at a tripartite meeting with the United States, a decision was taken by Angola and South Africa to set up a joint commission to monitor the disengagement and Angola's pledge that neither Cuban nor Swapo troops would be allowed to move into the vacated areas.

Angolan and Mozambique have been driven to the negotiating table by the chaotic conditions in their countries, which are only partly the result of Pretoria's "destibilization".

Leading article, page 15

Barricades go up again on French highways

From Diana Geddes
Paris

In a deliberate act of defiance, lorry drivers extended their road blockades yesterday, blocking in particular all access from Paris to Charles de Gaulle airport, as talks began between representatives of the road haulage federations and the Government which had earlier insisted that it would not negotiate under pressure.

By yesterday evening, nearly 90 blockades were reported to be in place, compared with only 50 the day before, mainly in the north-west, north-east, around Paris, and in the Savoy-Alps area. This was where the trouble first started a week ago in protest over lenghy delays caused by strikes of customs officials on both sides of the Franco-Italian frontier.

The French customs officials are now working normally, but their Italian colleagues resumed their strike on Monday in pursuit of demands for more pay and shorter working hours. More than 2,000 lorries, including some from Britain, have been stuck for days on the Italian side waiting to cross the Alps through the Mont Blanc tunnel.

Ski resorts in the Chamonix Valley area are complaining that hotel reservations have dropped by 20 per cent at what is normally a peak period in the school mid-term holidays, as a direct result of the lorry drivers' action.



Motorway patrol: Police vehicles block a section of road outside Paris to keep protesting lorry drivers clear of the capital.

On Sunday, the two main organizations representing France's 30,000 road haulage concerns called on their members to remove their blockades pending the result of the promised negotiations with the Government.

But on Monday night, the smaller of the two federations added to the general confusion by changing its mind and ordering members to continue their action in order to keep the pressure on the Government.

One of the main targets this time was Paris, and traffic on the ringroad around the capital was brought to a virtual standstill in many places, as well as on many of the main arteries into the city, including the A3 north to Charles de Gaulle airport.
market of Rungis to the south of the city, however.

The first round of talks with the Government is intended to deal with immediate demands by drivers: compensation for delays and damaged cargoes which, as the damage is self-inflicted, the insurance companies are unlikely to cover: immediate reopening of the Franco-Italian frontier and long-term measures to speed up customs clearance: reduced toll charges for goods lorries using the Mont Blanc tunnel: and the waiving of all legal sanctions against drivers involved in the dispute.

● VIENNA: More than 800 lorries were stranded on the Austrian side of the Brenner Pass yesterday (Richard Bassett writes).

The Italian customs dispute is estimated to be costing Austrian exporters 7 million schillings (£260,000) a day.

S African policeman jailed for killing black

From Our Own Correspondent
Johannesburg

A white South African security policeman, Sergeant Jan Harm Van As, was sentenced in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday to 10 years in prison for shooting dead at point-blank range a black detainee whom he was interrogating on July 5 last year.

Mr Justice F. N. Kirk-Cohen had found Van As guilty of culpable homicide, but rejected the request of the state prosecutor for a verdict of murder.

Mr Kirk-Cohen accepted that the accused had forced the defenceless Paris Malatji, aged 23, to "knee before him, unlocked the safety catch and held the loaded gun to his head" with the aim of terrifying the detainee into making a confession about his alleged links with the banned African National Congress.

The judge said there was a possibility that Malatji had tried to defend himself, that the pistol had gone off inadvertently and that Van As had not intended to shoot, though he should have known it was unlawful to point a gun at a detainee.

Lawyers for the parents of Malatji have started a suit for damages of 51,600 rands (£30,300) against the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis Le Grange, who is responsible for the police.

The man who kissed Mrs Thatcher

President Pertini's first London visit

From Peter Nichols, Rome

It is never too late will be the obvious moral drawn by the arrival at Heathrow tomorrow of Signor Sandro Pertini, Italy's irrepressible President, who at the age of 87 will see London for the first time.

In Italy the President is by far the most popular figure in public life, safely ahead even of the Pope. The Spanish newspaper *El Pais* has called him the world's most popular politician. He has undoubtedly won an extraordinary esteem by his candour and an ability to combine informality with human dignity. He is an official candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize ("it would be false modesty to say I didn't want it").

A lifelong socialist who spent much of his youth im Mussolini's prisons, his British political idols tend to be Conservatives. He talks about Churchill's greatness, adding that the "blood, sweat, toil and tears" speech "gave fresh heart to us anti-Fascist prisoners when reports of it reached us". He is a declared admirer of Mrs Thatcher.

She was here last month and they met fleetingly last week at the Andropov funeral "Mrs Thatcher", he says over half a glass of punt e mes, "is a woman I find very likeable. She gets on with things. And then you in Britain have swept men out of public life. The men have become impotent, in political terms that is.

"The head of state, the head of the Government and the Lord Mayor of London are for the first time all women. I am very fond of the Queen: we talk together like two friends of long standing. She is openminded, straightforward and speaks her mind."

Those are undoubtedly the virtues most appreciated by Pertini. It also explains why, in the case of Mrs Thatcher at least, his affection for her is much more marked than is usual among Italian politicians who are less inclined that he to accept straight talking. They find her manner too harsh.

Not the President: "I know you British are a stylish people, but at soon at I saw her in Moscow last week I embraced her and kissed her. Naturally, according to British etiquette this is something which should not be done, quite deplorable, that a man should embrace the Prime Minister. But I like her.



President Pertini: "British are a stylish people."

The Moscow journey was the most recent proof of the President's stamina, considering that he was already a growm man before the Russian revolution broke out. He stopped at Budapest on the way to Moscow for a quick talk with the Hungarian Deputy Prime Minister, arrived in time to pay his respects at Mr Andropov's bier, stood the next day for over two hours at the funeral ceremony ("it was not as long as we feared"), took two vodkas and a grappa at the Italian Embassy to disperse the cold, spoke at some length with Mr Chernenko, met the Italian community, had a long talk – which he found important – with Mr George Bush, visited an Italian school, set off the next day for Rome and stopped on the way back in Vienna for a talk with the Austrian President.

He came away from his meeting with Mr Chernenko favourably impressed. "He seemed to me a likeable rather than a hard faced man. He gave me the impression of a certain affability. If matters depend on him talks might well be reopened in a more tranquil terrain."

This need for reviving talks between East and West will be, he says, the main point in his talks with Mrs Thatcher. "She will not need my prompting because Mrs Thatcher is capable of moving on her own account: we are agreed on that. But I shall give my views on the subject with every firmness. This dialogue between the superpowers and the allies must be resumed. If not, trouble ... because if we do not do so the silence can be broken by the nuclear bomb. And then no one will ever speak to each other again."

DIRECTORS' CONVENTION — Tackling unemployment ● New-style leadership ● Public spending

HONGKONG

Freedom rules, says Pao

Free enterprise and free trade have been the key factors behind the big economic success of Hongkong, Sir Yue-Kong Pao the Hongkong shipping millionaire told the convention.

The global trend towards protectionism is in fact more of a worry to Hongkong's business community than the political uncertainties about the colony's future, he said. Despite its small area and total lack of raw materials, Hongkong has become one of the 20 largest trading nations in the world as well as a leading financial centre.

"What had been crucial to this success is the fact that people had, and continue to have, incentives to perform better. They have been able to keep and enjoy more of what they earn.

Sir Y.K., who is chairman of the World-Wide Shippinng Group, said that confidence was crucial to economic success. Hongkong had suffered an unusual loss of confidence in the last two years, with political uncertainties allied with the effects of the world recession, the collapse of the Honkong property market and the weakness of Hongkong's currency.

But his pessimism had proved to be a temporary phenomenon.

GOVERNMENT POLICY

Professions cannot escape competition, says Brittan

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, told the Institute of Directors convention in London yesterday that the professions should not be sheltered from competition.

"Proposals to improve competition in conveyancing were announced last Friday," he said.

"The City and the Law Society are also opening up their practices to more competitive pressure. Competition must apply irrespective of vested interests in the private and the public sectors alike in whatever form best serves the customers' interests."

Nowhere, he added, would improvements in markets reap surer or more welcome rewards than in the labour market. "A more efficient labour market allowing workers to price themselves and others into, rather than out of, jobs would make the single most important contribution to tackling the scourge of unemployment.

"For years trade unions in Britain have soughtto collectivize the economy. From the top, through pressure for nationalization planning agreements, and legislative changes to reinforce their powers. From the bottom, by constant pressure to widen union membership – and in particular, through the application of the iniquitous closed shop.

"The whole sorry process has been self-defeating, but it has been a defeat in which all of us have lost."

Nothing was more nonsensical, said Mr Britain, than the claim that the law had no place in industrial relations. "It does, it always has, and it undoubedly always will. Unions are creatures of law."

The Government's two Employment Acts were designed to redress the balance of power between employers and employees, those in unions and those outside them, those who held jobs and those who sought jobs.

"Yet ultimately, it is up to the unions to recognize that the irresponsible misuse of their power both to force up real wages and to impose unionization on those who do not wish it, leads to more unemployment."

Mr Brittan said that Mrs Thatcher's administration was a radical and reforming government whose main achievement had been to change for ever the terms of the debate about Britain's future.

"That change is not just important for the political parties. It is not just important for business and for everyone in this hall. It is crucial to Britain's prospects and prosperity in the years ahead.

"A new international concensus exists on the need to control governments spending and borrowing, to encourage profits and to make markets work. Successive international summits have recognized it

"Just a few years ago our medium term financial strategy was the butt of lethargic jocularity at every fringe meeting at the Conservative Conference. Now, however, the example of the MTFS is studied and followed by governments at conferences of a rather different sort.

"West Germany and Holland have medium-term plans to tackle their government deficits. And there is growing pressure to adopt a similar approach in the US.

"What lies behind this sea-change of opinion and policy is a mixture of necessity and conviction."

"But the new consensus also represents a new conviction. That is something which we must not hide. It is that the pursuit of equality through collective action creates poverty, injustice and often corruption and oppression. At the heart of liberal conservatism and the social market economy is a belief in the individual's ability to better himself and, through the market, to better others too. That is why the most important single long-term goal of this Government must now be to make markets work.



Colin Marshall, of British Airways, left, and Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, addressing the conference

British managers 'too unemotional'

Business leaders in Britain need to be more emotional and more prepared to make mistakes, Mr Colin Marshall, chief executive of British Airways, told the convention.

Paucity of leadership was a more serious failing in Britain than technological obsolescence, inflation, or labour problems.

Many of Britain's business leadership problems stem from its justly famous educational system, Mr Marshall said. This turns out superbly trained analytical minds which see all the intellectual elements of any business problem, but lack the emotional impetus to do somethint about them. The people it produces have comparatively little understanding or empathy with the needs of others.

Commitment in business required a certain amount of emotional display which is anathema to many people in Britain.

Business schools offered innumerable courses on how to cope with balance sheets, but few curricula provided help in learning how to work with people.

Mr Marshall said he had seen very able managers outshone by men of apparently lesser ability who worked at supplying care and concern for all the people who worked with them. The need was for caring leadership.

Young managers should be taught that making mistakes was acceptable, that leadership demanded communication, and that they should always tell the truth.

ECONOMY

Goldsmith urges widespread tax cuts

Mr Walter Goldsmith the director-general of the institute said that Britain was "on the verge of an economic miracle", but he urged Mrs Thatcher not to "abandon the mission" and called for a widespread cut in taxation.

We have reached a point in the life of Mrs Thatcher's government where it is all too easy for her to slacken the reins.

"To the Prime Minister it must sometimes seem that the behaviour of cabinets and spending ministers has not changed since the seventeenth century. In congratulating the Prime Minister on so many achievements, businessmen must candidly also say that it might all have been for nothing if public spending and the burden of taxation continue to rise.

"This is not the time to abandon the mission. Now is the time for Mrs Thatcher to revive the radical zeal of 1979. Tax cuts are not an option or a luxury: they are a necessity for growth, enterprise, and investment, savings and jobs.

"To curb public spending is not something which is to be striven for with little hope of reward: it is the bedrock of the policy upon which the present Government was elected."

Mr Goldsmith said the institute posed the question to Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor: "If you cannot tackle public spending and map out a strategy for the tax cuts you say are necessary now, at the start of your term, with a majority of 144 seats, when will you be able to do so?"

Britain was on the verge of an ecomomic miracle comparable to the German success of the 1950s, said Mr Goldsmith. Inflation was down from 27 per cent to 5 per cent, industrial output was up 7 per cent on 1981, gross domestic product growth was the highest in Europe, healthy upturns were apparent in the motor and housing industries and standards of living were rising.

"But we cannot rely on growth to fuel itself.

He called on the Chancellor to raise the income tax thresholds of the lower paid, to start cutting income tax basic rate, to abolish the investment income surcharge and tackle some of the capital taxes "which attack capitalism itself".

"What a disappointment it would be if Nigel Lawson's first Budget was remembered for putting up beer or cigarrettes, taking away mortgage or pension tax reliefs, or capital allowances for business, or introducing so-called financial services taxes.

"On the other hand, what a splendid and solid foundation for the future there would be if the Chancellor's first budget encouraged enterprise, extended the property-owning democracy and started to set the people free from the tyranny and demoralization of excessive taxation."


Walter Goldsmith: call for radical zeal

ECONOMICS

Muldoon backs summit

Sir Robert Muldoon, Prime Minister of New Zealand, said that for nearly two years, the world's decision makers had been seeking a long-term remedy for global economic problems similar to the Bretton Woods arrangement of 40 years ago.

Whether we are yet sufficiently afraid of the economic future to come together in a "new Bretton Woods" is yet to be determined. My belief is that we do not do it now then we will do it later in even less propitious circumstances.

"What is proposed, as was the case in 1944, is a detailed preliminary procedure of analysis leading to the preparation of options, followed finally by a conference which may extend over some time to agree on which options are acceptable.

"I believe that agreement can only be reached by, and in the name of, the world community. The regular summits, the Group of 10, the OECD, the IMF, the Group of 77, the non-alignment movement – almost all agree on the analysis of the situation, but the solution is beyond any one of these organizations.

"The governments of the powerful industrial economies hold the key and no solution which is not generally acceptable to them will ever be reached.

"It is also necessary to marry the views of the wealthy countries, who agree that something must be done but are fearful of a major conference where everyone speaks and no one listens, and the Third World, who want that major conference immediately."

On the issue of protectionism, Sir Robert said that the Gatt had outlived its mandate. It had nowhere to go on industrial products and had never gone anywhere on agricultural products.

Among the three worst offenders in respect of agricultural protectionism are Japan, the United States and the European Community, not necessarily in that order.

"The Common Agricultural Policy of the Community is economic lunacy of the highest order.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Jaguar's chief calls for union support

Mr John Egan, chairman of Jaguar, the BL subsidiary which is soon to be privatized, spoke of the need for trade unions to "break out of the time warp they seem to be in" and support the creation of wealth.

"In today's industrial environment they must learn that antique philosophies calling for more money for less work *and* giving less commitment to the future of their company are inappropriate. Trade unions must show the leadership to ensure that their members abandon short term thinking and understand that their own and their company's interests lie together.

"Good quality and high productivity can only be achieved through industrial harmony, this in turn can bring massive investment and good employment.

"Satisfying the customer has to be the goal of the chairman, the youngest apprentice and the chief shop steward. Jobs, wages, profits and investments are all by-products of a satisfied customer."

Earlier, Mr Egan outlined the recovery plan for Jaguar that had begun in 1980 with improved quality as the first priority.

"It was abundantly clear from the outset that emphasizing quality as the number one priority of the company met with the full approval of the workforce. It was also absolutely clear to us that we would make good purely and simply because everybody was utterly determined to play his part. The company was going to win because the employees wanted to win.

"Since 1980-81, demand for our cars in all world markets has continued to grow and whilst our workforce fell from 10.5000 making 14.000 cars in 1980 to 7.200 producing the same number in 1981, it has since grown to just over 8,000 making over 28,000 cars last year. This represents a trebling of productivity compared with 1980."

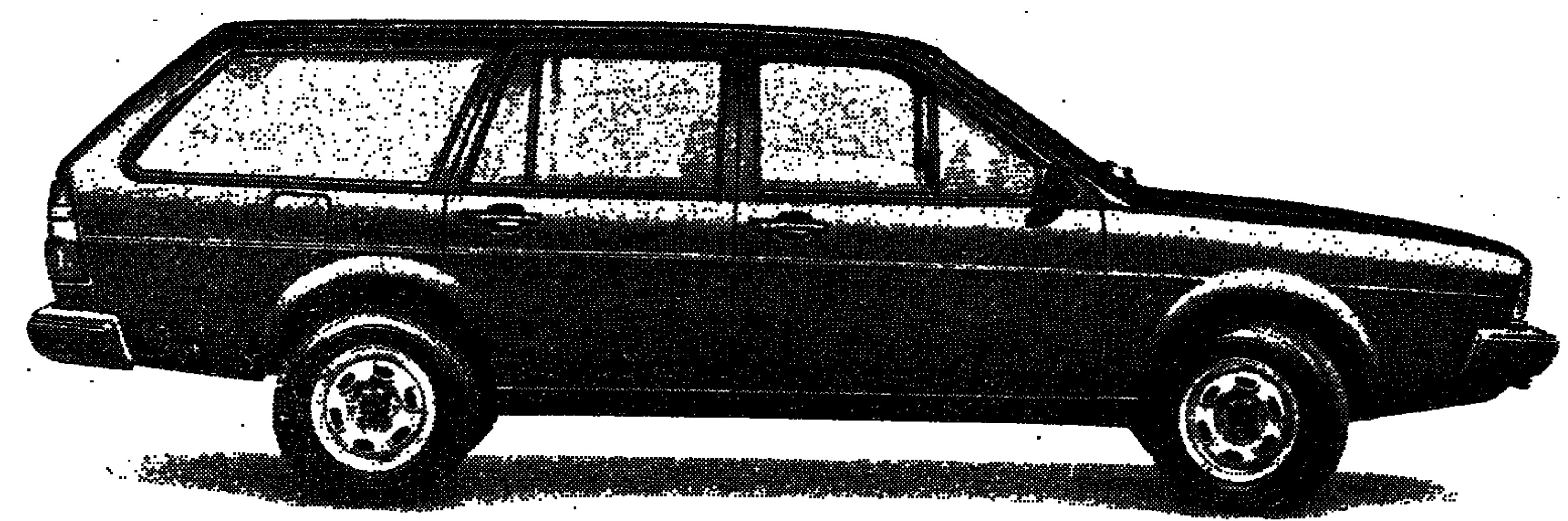
He added: Overall we have tried to create an environment at Jaguar which is the exact opposite of the purely instrumental approach which characterizes the employee's attitude towards his company in so much of industry. We know the dividends this pays not only in terms of generating a much better atmosphere within our factories, but also in our people's willingness to go far beyond the normal call of duty when problems arise.

"It is a simple philosophy. We believe that everyone working for Jaguar must be kept fully informed of its progress.

Jaguar's world sales had grown from 14.000 in 1980 to 29.170 last year, including remarkable growth in the United States. But the performance index that gave most pleasure was the improvement in customer satisfaction ratings.

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THE ARTS

Verdian vigour is too shackled by doubt

Jérusalem

Opéra, Paris

The Opéra's imaginative policy this season of putting on a number of works which were substantially rewritten by their composers to suit the Parisian taste of the last century has just taken another step forward. After Rossini's *Moïse* in the autumn, a great success under the supervision of Luca Ronconi, comes Verdi's *Jérusalem*. Italy salutes Paris.

The opera Verdi plundered in 1847 for his first Paris commission, and indeed his first visit to the city, was *I Lombardi*, written four years earlier. *I Lombardi alla prima crociata*, to use its full and cumbersome title, is scarcely a staple of the repertoire, although Covent Garden saw it in a borrowed – and none-too-good – production from Budapest in the mid-Seventies and it is back in the Scala repertory at Easter. But it is rightly praised for its raw vigour and power, qualities shared with Verdi's preceding opera, *Nabucco*.

In "O Signore, del tetto natio", which the Lombards sing in the Holy Land during the Crusades of the title, it has a chorus to match that of the Hebrew slaves in *Nabucco*. And "La mia letizia" is an aria most Italian tenors will sing sooner or later. Solera's improbable, even impossible, libretto of parricide, incestuous love and disguised hermits is another matter.

For his Paris opera Verdi turned the "plot" over to Royer and Vaez, who a few years earlier had provided Donizetti with the libretto for *La Favorite*. They did the right thing by ensuring that the crusaders were Frenchmen (from Toulouse) rather than Italians from Lombardy. The ...

... has his hole in the ground and the Crusaders are always on the rampage, there is a cold grey light with formal blocks of earth and pillars that come from a quite different visual tradition.

Simon, in sum, has laid bare just what he should have tried to conceal: that *Jérusalem* is indeed stylistically a divided opera. Fortunately, on the musical side Verdi got a much better deal, although some of the new numbers, including the *Scène de la* ... are less impressive than ...

... blessed ability ... pianissimo and yet shoot out above everyone else in ensemble. The polonaise in which Hélène, wandering in the desert with her faithful companion Isaure (Judith Malafronte), is overjoyed at the news her beloved Gaston is still alive came across with a brilliance that suggests she would be ideal casting for a part such as Elvira in *Puritani*.

Gaston, the tenor wrongly accused of murder, was Veriano Luchetti, a little heavy-handed in the French ...

... complaints about having an Italian cast to sing in ... French, then there is Alain Fondary matching them in vocal standards as the Count.

Donato Renzetti, heard to good advantage in Glyndebourne's *Barbiere*, early on seemed as uncertain as Jean-Marie Simon about the true nature of *Jérusalem*. It needed a Sinopoli or a Chailly to reach into the guts of the score. Later in the evening he achieved a much better rapport with the orchestra and coaxed the Opéra chorus into one of their best evenings in what ... Verdi's most choral ...

● Further performances tomorrow, February 27, March ...



La traviata

Hexagon, Reading

Verdi, I suspect, would be a happy, even ardent, follower of Opera 80's new travelling *Traviata*, on its way now from a week in the West to the Midlands and the East. His original hopes for an opera with a contemporary setting were thwarted in 1856 and have been, by and large, ever since. Steven Pimlott, in updating the Lady of the Camelias to 1928, has come brilliantly close to the work's nerve-centre, while also providing the company with just the economy and versatility of stagecraft it needs.

Annie Smart's handsome set designs illuminate and realize this economy: black and light-filtered white for the outer acts, and shades of ... and cream for the elegant ... that nestles neatly ... splits apart deftly for the sleekly choreographed flappers' fancy-dress party.

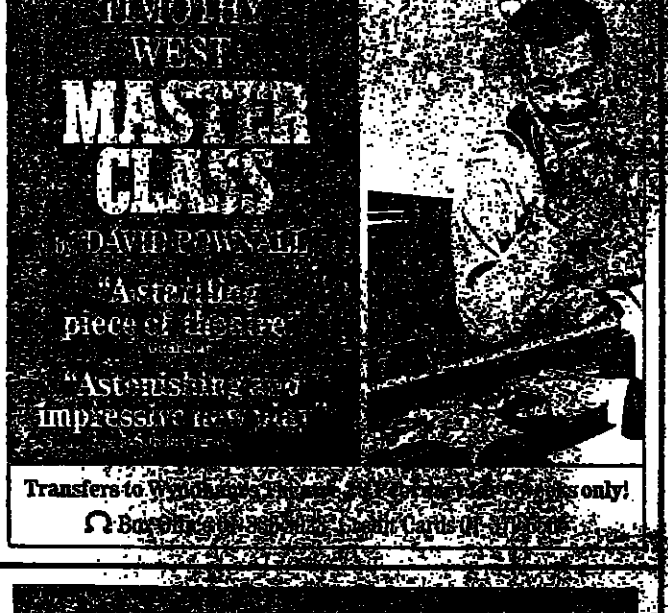
Far from intruding with gimmick or cliché, the very simplicity of design unifies and focuses the response of ear and eye. And, at the same time, the nervous equivocation and agitation in Verdi's score are cannily reflected in the frenzied activity, the restlessness of an age which, in Cecil Beaton's words, lived "always to be moving". Above all, though, this small-scale production achieves what was struck at the very heart of Verdi's purpose, a stripping down, through costumes, company, even orchestral forces, to the raw ... emotional response.

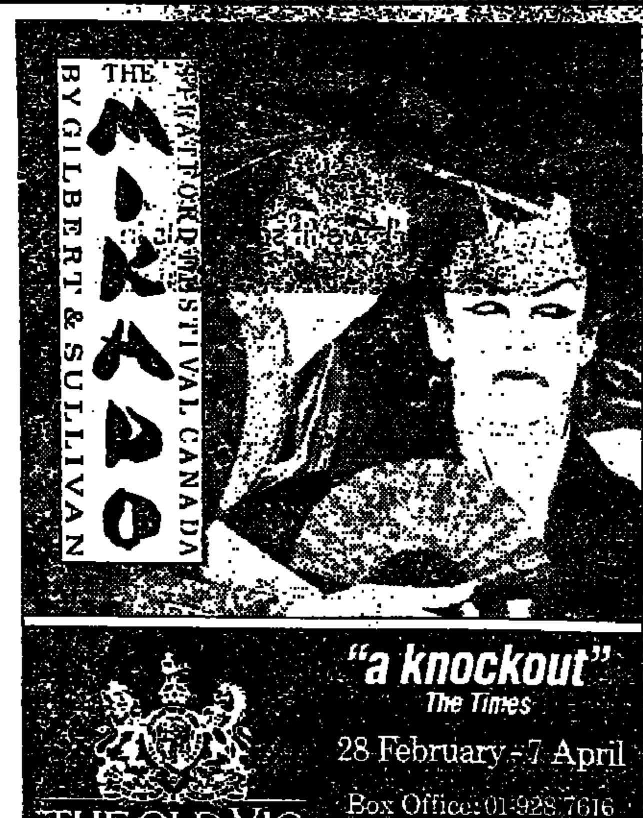
We hear it first in the ... David Parry's subtle and supple direction, hugging close each word of his new and generally successful translation. And on Monday we felt it supremely in the Violetta of Bronwen Mills (the two principals are double cast; Lynne Dawson sings tonight). Miss Mills's portrayal is one which any London stage could be proud of.

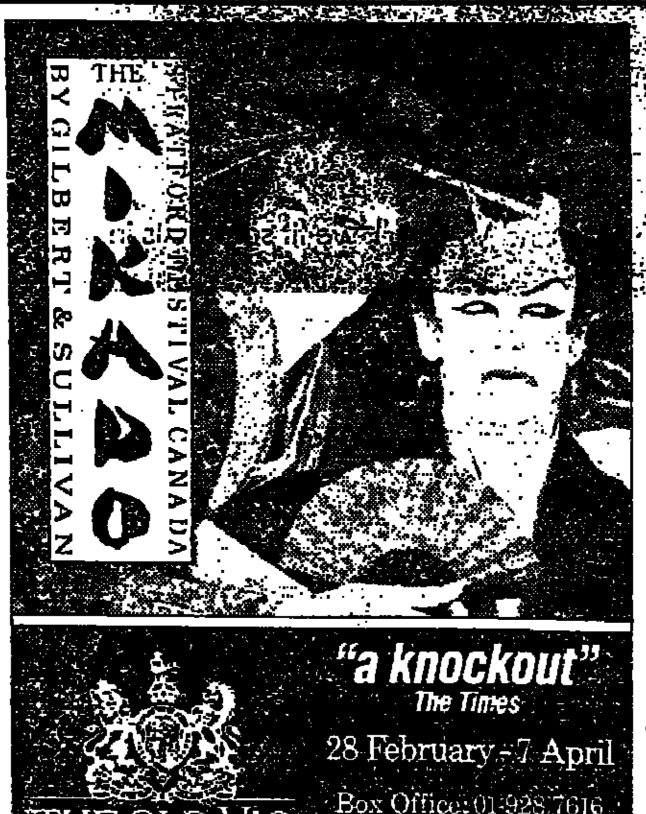
Her musical and dramatic rapport with Paul Harrhy's distinctive Alfredo was strongly balanced, the more so as he is not her usual partner: Kevin John was indisposed. No less carefully thought through was the relationship of Germont ... voiced characterization, catching the layers of insidious self-delusion and ambivalence within the role.

Among the smaller parts working in strong supporting ensemble, Geoffrey Dolton's Baron and Susan Bisatt's Annina stood out in what is undoubtedly this company's most purposeful and valuable production to date.

Hilary Finch







A voice for all England

Nicholas Kenyon investigates the ... of a ... who ... optimism ... pessimism

Elgar trying to work on his Third Symphony, as portrayed by "Batt" (Oswald Barrett) in the ... Companion ...

... dinner was held in his honour at which Richard Strauss proposed a toast to the welfare and success of the first English ...

But in 1902 it could reasonably have been hoped that Elgar would have turned out an even more important creative figure. Here, for the first time, was an English composer who was prepared to take seriously the innovations of adventurous European music. True, he was not the first English composer to do so: Arthur Sullivan had gone to Leipzig and returned to be hailed as the English Mendelssohn with his music for *The Tempest*. Elgar's case was a different case: from the provincial atmosphere of Worcester he escaped to a Europe where, after tasting Wagner, Brahms and Liszt at Covent Garden and the Crystal Palace, he could actually hear all of the *Ring*, *Tristan*, *Parsifal* and *Meistersinger*.

The first oratorios in which he tried out Wagner's techniques of harmonic and thematic transformation were not unqualified successes. It still remains to be explained how the *Enigma Variations* sprang into life with such maturity and conviction in 1899. But, with *The Dream of Gerontius*, Elgar brought within the hallowed portals of the English oratorio tradition a work whose musical adventurousness and moments of doubt and self-questioning changed that genre radically and forever. Without *Gerontius*, it is safe to say, the oratorio dinosaurs would have driven themselves out of existence; there ...

... declared that he was "one of the most repressed people it is possible to imagine".

Some have regarded this as Elgar's fatal flaw, but surely it is also possible to regard it as the ... which made his most characterful music as fine as it is: a poignant expression of the will to progress and an inability to do so. One of the best analyses of Elgar's musical personality is an article by Donald Mitchell in *Music and Letters* (April, 1957) in which he argues that Elgar's conservatism "did not mean that he felt less deeply, but rather that the range of his feelings was inhibited; he did not plunge into those new regions of feeling that might have forced his style to widen its scope".

Mitchell guesses that "had Elgar liberated himself from a host of protective emotional prohibitions ... he might well have responded with some out-of-character music that would have crossed the threshold of the new century in style, not chronology alone". That is an intriguing thought, but I believe it does less than justice to the knife-edge balance which Elgar does indeed attain in his finest works between optimism and pessimism, hope and despair. In the Second Symphony, for instance, as the cellos' theme in the first movement is transformed into the ...

... reworking of already existing material, as the researches of Christopher Kent have shown. The most expert musician among his friends who heard him "play through" the work at the piano, Basil Maine, said that Elgar relied partly on jigsaw-like sketches, partly on memory and "partly I imagine ... on extemporization". Elgar wanted to hide the fact that the Third Symphony did not exist, and his death-bed plea that no one should "tinker with it" was the best hope he had that his final failure would remain hidden.

Still, Elgar's finest music – the works of the years between 1899 and 1919 – is standing the test of time: it remains belatedly adventurous, a late flowering of romanticism shot through with the presentiment of the inevitable decay of that language. From the English madrigalists, to Purcell in his consort music and Boyce and Arne in their symphonies, the English have always done things, musically, late in the day: in his delayed, cautious, intensely human progressivism, Elgar speaks for us all.

London debuts

Surface enthusiasm

... internal structure of a piece and his own response to it. Beethoven's Op 10 No 3 Sonata was played with the same mechanistic energy as Bach. In five *Norlandsbilleder* by David M. Johansen, in his Grieg Ballade and his Ravel *Jeux d'eau*, irregular rhythms and the overtly colouristic properties of the writing spurred him to freer, more imaginative playing.

If Larsen's artistry was incomplete, that of the Cypriot violinist George Vass was scarcely audible. He has been well taught (Ivan Galamian for five years), is well travelled and clearly well-supported. The sweet, true voice of his Guadagnini violin did speak out from time to time, but too often it was silenced by playing which seemed to know or to care little for precision of rhythm or intonation. Nimble fingerwork ...

Satu Salo, a harpist from Finland, had set out a stimulating ... programme ranging from Byrd to Milhaud and focusing on an enterprising twinning of Sibelius's "The Harper" with the première of *Fantasia polifonica*, specially commissioned from Ronald Stevenson and based on the Sibelius. Whether Ms Salo was overcome by nerves or simply ill-prepared, her playing, insecure and music-bound, in no way yet reaches the minimum requirements of solo performance.

Hilary Finch

● In an interview on this page with Hugh Brogan, biographer of Arthur Ransome, Caroline Moorehead stated that he worked at Exeter University. This was incorrect. Mr Brogan is at the Department of History in the University of Essex. Our apologies to him.

Peter Stothard reports on the fiction of Mrs Thatcher's foreign policy adviser

Her man in Havana – or in Stanley?

LAST week a new novel arrived in the Prime Minister's personal mail at 10 Downing Street. Mrs Thatcher does not normally ask for new novels, preferring something more established for her rare times of relaxed reading. She may, however, have looked more closely than usual at this one.

It tells how a great British fleet was prepared and provided for in dramatic haste, how it sailed into far-off hostile waters in order to capture a small island and enhance "the grand historical adventure of the English nation"; also how the enterprise was betrayed in Parliament by pusillanimous politicians, the soldiers' sacrifices forgotten and the island returned to the Spanish-speaking foe.

The novel's author is Lord Thomas of Swynnerton, still probably better known as Hugh Thomas, historian of the Spanish Civil War, head of the right-wing think-tank the Centre for Policy Studies, and one of the Prime Minister's close advisers on foreign affairs. It is set not in the South Atlantic of 1982, but the Caribbean of 1762 when a successful anti-Spanish expedition against Cuba, backed by William Pitt the Elder and the Duke of Newcastle, was opposed and undone by rival Tory peacemakers led by the notorious Lord Bute. The Falklands echo is, however, clear.

At the time of the 1982 campaign, Lord Thomas was one of those most intimately involved in Mrs Thatcher's tough negotiating stance against Argentina. In *Havannah*, to be published tomorrow, he has chosen to use a fictional device to weigh up the expedition's price and lasting value. The message is a simple one – spelt out perhaps too simply and starkly for the taste of some Conservatives.

As he explained it himself last week, "naval expeditions in British history may not be all the same, but they have important similarities. The 'take-and-hold' school will always tend to dominate for a short while and always tend to lose in the end. So there is a symbolic point in *Havannah* – the importance of the boost to the national spirit which accrues from victory, even victory followed by a political sell-out".





Hugh Thomas has written an historical novel about the British naval expedition to the Caribbean in 1762 portrayed (above) by Dominic Serres. But the problems facing the victors of the South Atlantic in 1982 are not far from the surface

Hugh Thomas has written a novel that is partly in code – a typical act of his, according to political colleagues. He has always been a difficult man for Conservatives to pin down. Some suspect him simply for being an apostate. He is a former socialist and Labour candidate who made a sharp conversion to Mrs Thatcher's cause in 1977. To others, he is suspiciously smooth and charming. He has strong, silvery hair and such looks as Lord Byron might have enjoyed had he lived to Lord Thomas's age, 53 next birthday. Artists and intellectuals rarely find a secure home in the Conservative Party. Mrs Thatcher is no more than mildly enthusiastic about them herself. So why, it is asked, does he appear to be so favoured?

This line of questioning is particularly current at the moment. By the Prime Minister's appointment, he runs the Centre for Policy Studies, a temple for radical Tory free-marketeers founded by Sir Keith Joseph when the party was last in opposition and until recently dominated by the abrasive personality of Sir Alfred Sherman. But today Sherman sits on the sidelines after a series of acrimonious disputes with Thomas. Whether the consequent softening in the rhetoric emerging from the CPS is by Prime Ministerial design or not, few know for certain. But it is much talked of. Has Lord Thomas been given the role of dampening too great right-wing expectations on the economy, on East-West relations, on the Falklands? Many think so.

When a vacancy is looming in a job that lies in the Prime Minister's gift, an ambassadorship in Madrid or Moscow, the mastership of Trinity College Cambridge, his name is bandied about as a candidate. But he is a man who keeps his own very close counsel. "From politics it is a short step to silence", quotes the narrator's sister in the closing pages of *Havannah*. So with the author too: only the occasional sharp public or semi-public statement breaks out from the mist of reticence that his colleagues find at once such a source of endearment and suspicion.

His books – particularly this most recent book – have a characteristic pattern of imaginative scholarship and firm didacticism. In the late 1950s he and his friend and fellow Tory convert-to-be, Paul Johnson, both wrote light novels. Johnson's on student revolution in France, Thomas's on the absurdities of the Foreign Office where he had worked for a short time after leaving Cambridge. That first book, *The World's Game* (dedicated to Nancy Mitford, and now, he proudly explains, priced in US catalogues at $50, as "Thomas's first work") begins with a long disclaimer that seems to protest a bit too much that its characters bear no relation to any living person. His second novel, *The Oxygen Age*, is another satire – this time on the gullibility of politicians in the face of technological advance. Both contain pellets of hard political criticism amidst the gentle wit. To the *Times Literary Supplement* reviewer of *The World's Game*, the set speeches were the best thing about the book.

Thomas subsequently abandoned writing novels for the more remunerative and fame-bringing business of being a historian. He commented last week that he had never any particular ambition to be a novelist: "It just seemed the right way to start as a writer." There followed *The Spanish Civil War*, *The Suez Affair* (another British expedition hamstrung by politicians), an edited study of the English establishment, and his most recent and remarkable history book, *An Unfinished History of the World*, which traces the technological and economic forces that have moulded the earth from its beginnings as a ball of gas, almost to the present day.

The novels slipped into oblivion. In the publisher's proof copy of *Havannah* they are cited amongst the author's previous work. In the published version they have been excised. But the didactic streak remains. The political pundit still peeps from behind the apron strings of historian and novelist.

An Unfinished History of the World contains many a little lecture on the evils of subsidy (its contribution to the collapse of Roman corn production), the disaster of over-regulation by government (with reference to the Spanish wool industry) and the scarcity of entrepreneurs (in relation to poor Chinese exploitation of technology). If Mrs Thatcher dips selectively into her signed copy of *Havannah*, she will find much to appreciate there, too. On page 42, the problem of civil service overmanning: "Thirty admiralty clerks. Did you ever hear such a scandal?". On page 58, the importance of not inviting cabinet opponents to crucial committee meetings. On page 3, the misinterpretation of political calls for hard work.

Lord Thomas denies that he is making specific political points. He accepts, however, that "some of my foibles, prejudices, passions and beliefs will come out even when I am talking about the eighteenth rather than the twentieth century". On the central issue of the justification of the 1762 expedition he is more forthcoming.

The core of the story is the experience of the three Keppel brothers, George, 3rd Earl of Albemarle, commander of the enterprise, Augustus Keppel, the second-in-command of the fleet, and William, divisional general. They set off on the hazardous trip to repair their ravaged family fortunes and came back with some £160,000. The key image is the "elms" of their country estates. The massive bias in the rewards from the trip for the senior officers – a private soldier received £4 1s 8½d – is justified because otherwise no one would ever leave his elms at all. The novel's last words have its narrator, Tom Lucksmoor, who accompanied the Cuban expedition as a young boy, looking forward to the elms he may win in his life from other foreign adventures.

"I wanted to subtitle the book *The Price of Elms*, but the publishers thought it too obscure. The Keppels lost their health at Havannah and founded a dynasty that is part of our heritage. We should consider such intangible benefits when we ask if the price is worth paying."

Before the fleet sets sail, the narrator describes the sensation of "belonging to a vast movement whose strength seemed outside the personalities of the strongest characters. The expedition was to Havannah in detail," Lucksmoor notes, "but it seemed too to constitute the grand historical adventure of the English nation". "Even with hindsight he is right to see it in that way", says Thomas. "As a matter of fact it probably would have been better for England if we had kept the Caribbean and given up India. But it is wrong to look at just the big global picture."

In the closing chapters of *Havannah* Thomas draws a striking picture of the parliamentary debate in which the Earl of Bute, compromiser and court flatterer to George III, tramples over Pitt, Newcastle and their "take-and-hold" party. "To Bute", the narrator bemoans, "the defeat of such men was far more important than the defeat of Spain."

"Of course, we haven't had that debate on the Falklands yet", says Thomas cautiously, "but the elms that are taller as a result of that campaign will stay tall. And I don't think even Mrs Thatcher's fiercest Conservative critics would put her quite in the same league as Lord Bute."

Havannah *is published tomorrow by Hamish Hamilton, price £9.95.*

moreover... Miles Kington

The Day of the Raj is reborn

A TV studio. Sir Robin Day sits at a desk. He is dressed in brilliant red robes, with an imposing head-dress encrusted with priceless rubies and emeralds.

Day: Hello, and welcome to Rajah's Question Time. As you know, the BBC is desperately anxious to get the licence fee doubled, and they now think that the only way to do it is to cash in on the vogue for India sweeping the media. I have my own personal feelings about this, but have been somewhat mollified at being made a rajah. . . .

(Cut to aerial film of India. We see the vast expanses of Uttar Pradesh, Mostly Pradesh and Somewhat Pradesh.)

Voice-over: India, the land of teeming millions. There are three great faiths here: the Hindu religion, the worship of Buddha and the belief that Richard Attenborough will come back to make another film. Generations of westerners have come here in search of truth.

(Historical film sequence showing how the East India Company was formed to look for truth and enlightenment, but unfortunately found only jewels, spices and a lot of money. Later the British Army was formed to guard it. Major-General Hip-flask remembers those days well.)

General: I remember those days well. I went out to India in 1843 and stayed right through till 1947, during which time I learnt to say "Hurry up, damn you!" in more than 4,000 dialects. Of all the Indians it was pleasure to serve over, I think I preferred the Gurkhas. When you were in a tight spot, with your back to the wall, you always knew you could turn to Johnny Gurka and say: "What's the meaning of life all about then, eh?" I think the same is true today.

(Cut to Jackie Charlton standing in a jungle clearing, wearing wellies and cap.)

Charlton: Hello, well today we're going elephant shooting. . . .

(There is a rustle in the undergrowth behind him. He whips round and fires. The assistant cameraman falls out of a bush, dead. Enter Derek Cooper.)

Cooper: Hello, I'm Derek Cooper, and one of the great Indian dishes is elephant steak. This is prepared on street corners throught India, using 167 different spices, and is then flown to England where you can enjoy it at a restaurant not two minutes from this cinema.

(Cut to the Taj Mahal Curry House, 235, Wandsworth Drive Road, SW33, proprietor S. Patel.)

Patel: Hello. I would like to make two things absolutely clear. One, there is no such thing as curry in India. Two, we Indians are fed up with people thinking we are all called Patel. Three, we have just closed, so clear off.

(Aerial film of the wide-open spaces of India – Uttar Pradesh, Absolute Pradesh, Bang-on Pradesh, etc.

Voice-over: The BBC, rather like India, is a teeming sub-culture of many thousands of people, many of them living close to the breadline. Some of them are so poor they have to make programmes featuring only a chairman and two guests. But if the licence fee were doubled, their life could be transformed. Please give freely.

(Cut to a hand holding out a large begging bowl, marked BBC. Over it roll up the opening credits. "That's the Meaning of Life and Truth! With Esther Rantzen.")

Rantzen: Hello, and today we'll be asking the question: Was the Indian Mutiny strictly necessary? We'll be investigating a man in Delhi who sells short-weight chapatis and looking at the tragic case of Gunga Din, who may have been shot in error. But first, lots of smutty jokes from Indian newspapers. Where are my young men?

(Cut to aerial shots of thousands of Indians toiling in the midday sun. They are all extras in a new version of Passage to India. E. M. Forster remembers writing that book very well.)

Forster: Hello. I think if I'd known there was going to be this fashion for Indian things, I'd have set many more books in the teeming sub-continent. But there you are – who can tell the future? What is the meaning of life? What's it all about? Search me.

The views of the Duke of Edinburgh: Part two

Whims of the rich and the perils of progress

Polo–for the rich but not the idle

Polo is not cheap and anyone wishing to play must either be well-heeled, have a good job or be supported by an indulgent parent or sponsor. If he happens to be married, his wife needs to be very understanding and long-suffering. Wives play an extremely important part in polo and many promising young players have had the terrible choice of keeping their ponies or keeping a wife. Some lucky ones somehow manage to persuade their wives to keep, groom and train their ponies, but this ideal arrangement is understandably rare.

People with money are people who can indulge in whims, or they are liable to sudden calls to mysterious meetings in Caracas or Hongkong. Whims can include anything from a week's salmon fishing in Iceland to an African safari or a girlfriend in Miami. The problems, therefore, of getting a team together are formidable and the pre-season negotiations would do credit to any Near-eastern carpet vendor.

Should, by some remote chance, the team remain intact a certain amount of team practice should be possible. If nothing else, there will be a lot of talk about ponies, tactics and plans all washed down with suitable refreshment in the club house.

You may well believe that after all this pre-match activity the game itself is an anti-climax. Nothing could be further from the truth. Hard-lipped tycoons give every sign of extreme nervousness, elderly players with battered hats and years of experience can be seen to take a nip of something to help them along. False teeth are put away safely and every kind of body protection is fitted into place.

The match then begins and all the previous anxiety and planning, organization and practice is put to the test in 40 minutes of flashing sticks, galloping ponies, curses, bumps, shouts, hits to warm the heart and misses to chill the spine.

There are moments of awful realization. The ball is overrun by the rest of the players and there it sits rolling gently to a standstill and all you have to do is get your pony balanced and going in the right direction. You take a swing – and miss. Fortunately the game goes on and something else happens before you can think of a quick and easy way to commit suicide.

There are additional hazards in the shape of umpires. These long-suffering citizens may be close friends and boon drinking companions in normal life, but in a game they become mutton-headed dolts, totally ignorant of the simplest rules of the game and completely blind to monstrous and blatant fouls committed by the opposition.

Shouting, which is neither warning, nor instructional, nor directed at the pony, is more or less without exception abuse. There is really not much venom in it and very frequently it is produced more by fright than by animosity.

The field of play is relatively large and with only eight players it may seem thinly populated; but collisions and falls are inevitable. They usually happen so quickly that the next thing you know is that you are ploughing a furrow through the turf with your nose or lying gazing at the hospital ceiling. Eventually the bell goes for the end and, elated or dejected, the teams ride off.

Of course, if you were fortunate enough to win, there is the momentary adulation of the crowd and probably the only admiring glance you are going to get from your wife or girlfriend that day.

We control everything but ourselves



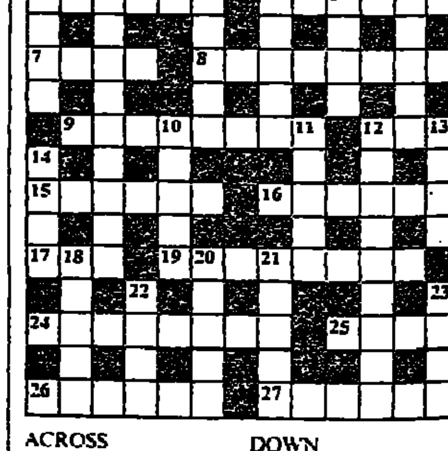
We have always tended to assume that any discovery or invention, so long as it was conveniently labour-saving, was naturally a boon to the world and to humanity. We measure progress by the speed of aircraft or by the number of television channels on the dial. We are obsessed by our material welfare to the exclusion of all concern for the social development of mankind. We may have discovered the existence of radio sources several million light years away with an immensely clever piece of equipment, but we continue to treat each other and all the other living things on our planet in a way which is only a bare improvement on primitive man.

At least in the primitive state mankind could only do a limited amount of damage. The same will and emotions which caused primitive man to damage and destroy are still with us today with the only difference that technology has given us vastly improved means to give expression to our anger and jealousy, our pride and covetousness. We can control everything in our world except ourselves.

I want to suggest that scientific and technological progress is not only valueless, it is actively harmful, unless it is modified or directed by a social and humanitarian outlook. Scientists and engineers must also give their attention to the really serious problems facing humanity even if it means giving up some problems which seem to be more interesting or profitable. Equally the intellectual humanist can no longer pretend that science and technology are incapable of making a valuable contribution to the progress of human civilization.

Extracts from Men, Machines and Sacred Cows *by HRH Prince Philip, published next week by Hamish Hamilton, price £8.95.*

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 274)



ACROSS
- 1 Church caretaker (6)
- 4 Artilleryman (6)
- 7 Police spy (4)
- 8 Bold opposition (8)
- 9 Superior goods (8)
- 12 Allow (3)
- 15 Plunder (6)
- 16 Dependent state (6)
- 17 Female deer (3)
- 19 Spanish ranch (8)
- 24 Iberian Jews (8)
- 25 Colonnaded walk (4)
- 26 Fills cavity (6)
- 27 Be indecisive (6)

DOWN
- 1 Secure (4)
- 2 Foreigner hater (9)
- 3 Depths (5)
- 4 Blunder (5)
- 5 Tidy (4)
- 6 Master of ceremonies (5)
- 10 Muslim god (5)
- 11 Toy with (5)
- 12 Final resort (4,5)
- 13 Speak (4)
- 14 Secondhand (4)
- 18 Open (5)
- 20 Tapestry hanging (5)
- 21 Homerian Trojan epic (5)
- 22 Male cook (4)
- 23 Carnival (4)

SOLUTION TO No 273
ACROSS 1 Egg nog 5 Loss 8 Pilot 9 Archaic 11 Rag trade 13 Okay 15 Excalibur 18 Pipe 19 Aqueduct 22 New wave 23 Trunk 24 Wrap 25 Tarzan
DOWN 2 Gulag 3 Not 4 Grandiloquent 5 Lick 6 Slacker 7 Spark 10 Cays 12 Ruck 14 Abbe 15 Empower 16 Spin 17 Stake 20 Uvula 21 Lamp 23 Tor

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Education today: **Brian Alderson** on polytechnic research and **Lucy Hodges** describes a change in training methods

A modern look at folklore

Educational research, which so often seems to be devoted to an expensive redefinition of the obvious, has just had a modest creative success. It comes in the form of a flimsy, 20-page, full-colour children's book called *The Tiger and the Woodpecker*, published under the unlikely imprint of the Middlesex Polytechnic.

The Tiger and the Woodpecker is an Indian fable about ingratitude. The bird fishes a bone out of the beast's throat and thus saves him from starving to death, but the beast fails to honour a pledge to cut the bird in on his next big kill. "You're lucky I didn't eat you alive", says he. So the bird pecks one of the tiger's eyes, and when reproached for this vengeful act he remarks philosophically: "You're lucky I didn't peck out both of them".

Now the interest attaching to this cheerful tale lies not so much in its moral as in the course of events that led the Middlesex Polytechnic to publish it. For this is just one of a large storehouse of folktales which the polytechnic has been collecting through its clumpingly-titled research project on "Reading Materials for Minority Groups".

Jennie Ingham, the research fellow who has been chiefly responsible for directing the project, had the idea of investigating what traditional stories were still being told around the hearth-sides of immigrant families. Armed with notebooks, tape recorder, and a great deal of local goodwill, she set about collecting whatever stories came to hand from some of the Greek, Turkish and Asiatic residents of the north London boroughs that make up the Middlesex Polytechnic's catchment area.

Sometimes the telling was in racy modern English, sometimes it was in a vernacular that had to be translated (among the Indian languages recorded are Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu). Tales flowed in by the dozen, and as news of the project spread, the number increased to hundreds.

But *The Tiger and the Woodpecker* is not just significant as an example of what this search has produced. It is also a demonstration of what can be made from the material. For Jennie Ingham was especially anxious to show that these stories might have an appeal to more people than their native audience, and this little book has been fashioned as a model for the presentation of still-current popular tales.

It was planned from the start to measure up to the standards set by such commercial series as Picture Puffins: it was given attractive, somewhat Wildsmithy illustrations by a brand-new illustrator – Judy Cobden; and its production by the polytechnic's design department incorporated a novel double-setting of the text. Not only does the English translation appear in tandem with the original Hindi; but also the polytechnic has produced English editions linked to the languages of the six other participants in the project.

In its finished form, the book is healthy proof of the vigour that still lies in traditional tales. It is not, though, the start of a large publishing venture by an academic institution. Although Jennie Ingham now has a remarkable collection of narratives on paper, on tape and even on video, she is expecting that these will be made over to trade publishers, more accustomed to the harrowing business of book production than a polytechnic. Moreover, with this success, the funding of the project has been continued.

A considerable investment, especially of time, had been made in the gathering and the multiple translation of these stories, and the thought naturally arose that equivalent material was present beyond the borders of Haringey and Barnet. (And who is to say that Geordie tales should not figure as significantly as Gujarati ones?) In consequence, some different research is on hand to find out ways and means of setting up a National Community Folktale Centre, where the results of work like this can be deposited, codified, and brought into a relationship with other folklore studies. Put like that, it sounds a shade dusty, but *The Tiger and the Woodpecker* is a token that, so far as Jennie Ingham is concerned, it is the life of the tales that comes first.

The Tiger and the Woodpecker, *retold by Aruna Adjitsaria and illustrated by Judy Cobden, is available from the Middlesex Polytechnic at 114 Chase Side, London N14 5PN. Price £1 post free.*



The centre pages of *The Tiger and the Woodpecker*, with the text in English and Urdu

New lessons for headteachers

For years headteachers were sovereign rulers, virtually unchallenged by parent, teacher or child, and able to run their schools without too much hard thought or official interference.

Until the 1970s the birthrate was rising, so they knew their pupils would keep on coming. Britain's economic performance was not yet a cause for earnest discussion. No one seemed too concerned about whether children were learning the right things or to a required standard. Consensus reigned in the education world.

Now all has changed. Today headteachers are beset with challenges. Apart from their traditional responsibilities, such as choosing staff and arranging the timetable, they have to do a lot more.

One of their most important tasks is to communicate at a range of levels. One minute they will be reprimanding or comforting a child in trouble, the next trying to persuade staff to innovate. They have to wheedle money out of a tight-fisted local authority, persuade parents to send their children to that particular school, head off an inquiring governor or answer questions from the local newspaper.

The beleaguered headteacher has become accountable. He or she is having to look outside the school and address a wide and predominantly ill-informed audience. It is not an enviable task, and it is not surprising that headteachers need help with it.

That is why Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, has announced – under pressure from the Secondary Heads Association – the setting up of a national centre in Bristol for training headteachers, and the injection of £6m over the next three years into the training of heads and senior staff.

Courses are now running throughout the country. The one I went on, in Cambridge, was for primary heads organized by the Institute of Education in conjunction with five local education authorities, Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk, Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire.

I wanted not only to get a feel of the courses but also to find out about the headteacher's job. The group of 17 were on a one-term course in which they were learning about the structure of local government, national issues in education and, significantly, how companies are managed.

One of their tasks was to visit a school, interview the head and discover what he or she saw as the role of the head, deputy head and other staff with responsibilities. This unlocked a can of worms at one infants' school in East Anglia whose head complained that her deputy and the rest of the staff opposed her at every opportunity, refusing to do dinner duties. The deputy, it transpired, had applied for the headship but failed to get it.

This head had stuck a piece of leather over the keyhole of her office door because she thought the deputy was eavesdropping on her conversation. She also locks all her drawers after having found the deputy rooting through her cupboards in search of books.

Another head was told: "I'll see you off the premises as I have seen off two other heads." Mr Howard Bradley, director of the Cambridge institute, said most schools contain a fifth column which opposes the head.

But staff can be brought round and major changes can be wrought. With one of the heads on the course, I visited a middle school in Norwich whose energetic new head, John Knowles, advocates corporate management. The school had been neglected previously, he said. "Problems of communication were rife because it was run on the basis of rumour and what the children wanted to do. I have now got a structure."

In a matter of 10 weeks he had secured agreement for an £80,000 modernization programme for the school buildings, he had got rid of two teachers and was hoping two more would go, he had introduced corporate management, and a new curriculum was being drawn up for each subject.

It had been heavy going. "But too many of us are prepared to sit back and not fight. Staff development and training for teachers is vital. There is still strong support here for the old style of head who stays in his office and doesn't involve himself.

"But there is a growing feeling that the head needs to be around and about the school, needs to teach, to develop teachers' management and teaching skills and to organize a structure for when he is not there."

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY

The little plighter does it again



My daughter announces that she is to be married in the spring. Early matrimony is often a sign of domestic disaffection, and since the combined years of the bride and groom amount to ten, there are clearly two very disturbed households (one of them is mine) in the Richmond area. There is also the pressing question of where the young couple will live, how they will meet the mortgage repayments, who will go out to work and who stay in full-time education. Since job opportunities for children have never really recovered since Victorian times, some sort of parental subsidy seems inescapable.

The groom-to-be is named Richard. He is very well grown for his age and should have no problems getting a job with the council's parks department. In one sense the boy is quite a catch, as his father is something very big in re-insurance. As I see it, one of the main problems is that Richard, charitably described by his teachers as "gregarious", has already plighted his troth to three other girls between the ages of four and six, one of whom lives in our road. I foresee the first real test of liberal parenthood.

Three days to go until the Parent/Teacher Association dance in the church hall. These are guilt-inducing affairs, even before they take place. There is no limit to the amount of voluntary work one could undertake in the way of bread-buttering, bar-manning and ticket-selling. Here lies the public face of Good Parenthood, and I have often suspected that mums and dads wax very competitive when it comes to scoring Brownie points in this department. I freely admit that these are the sour grapes of the sluggard.

New light on the marriage question. It is not my daughter who is marrying Richard, but rather *he* who is marrying *her*. This is a more important technicality than it sounds, for were it the other way round, then apparently custom would dictate that she go and live with his family. As it is *we* get *him*. As far as I am concerned this is far too literal a form of not losing a daughter but gaining a son, and I trust he will very soon be shown up for the trainee bigamist he is.

I might have guessed. Petranella, now four months pregnant, and my horrible lawyer friend Parvis Maitland are in the forefront of PTA activism. Everyone knows she should be taking it easy (she has told them so herself), but martyrdom to public service has proved too tempting a role. He, meanwhile, has grabbed the most influential walk-on part, and will be conducting the raffle draw. This is a classic piece of type-casting, given that he loves to hold the fortunes of others in the palm of his hand.

A letter with a Beckenham postmark. No prizes for guessing the authorship. It comes from Great Aunt Sylvia, who is threatening to visit. It would be quite wrong to attach any hopes of enjoyment to these occasions, and so I have long given up doing so. Within the spectrum of social functions they occupy a place somewhere between an auditors' tour and a Combined Cadet Force inspection day. Shortly before her arrival – by which I mean minutes rather than days – broken toys are scooped by the armful into the cupboard under the stairs, soiled baby gear is stamped into the brimming bin.

We all know that these visits are really nothing more than fact-finding missions from which damning data can be garnered and then rediffused to the far-flung arms of the extended family, the better to champion Old Values. So why do we bother to play along? I suspect that if I knew, I wouldn't be writing this.

To the PTA dance. Now, I know very well that the current state of popular music falls into disrepair when you reach the age of 35, but this does not stop me from being deeply puzzled by the performance of the home-grown band, Kandi and the Cassettes. They are churning out a terrible post-punk cacophony from the dais, yet somehow it seems to be getting through to a quartet of grandparents over in the far corner of the hall. Beneath the blurred decibels and the feed-back yowling from the bank of speakers, they have discovered a rhythm to which they can do the Charleston.

Parvis Maitland is praying silence for the raffle draw. My goodness, he loves the sound of his own voice. He dunks his fat fist into the drum and draws out ticket number 365. Who should step up beaming for the magnum of champagne, but Mrs P Maitland! Suddenly a pall of corruption falls on this innocent gathering.

An expensive taste, but well worth it

THE TIMES COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

Three pence a pint is what Isabella Beeton reckoned to spend on making oxtail soup, and she did not stint on the ingredients.

One-hundred and twenty-five years later, oxtails cost 89p a pound and my recipe works out at £1.38 per pint. It is neither cheap nor quick to make. But it is worth every penny.

The finished soup should be quite fatless. And as oxtail is a very fatty cut of meat, this is most easily achieved by allowing the soup to become cold enough for the fat to solidify, so that it can be lifted off. This means starting the soup the day before it is needed, which improves the taste too.

Oxtail soup
Serves four to six

- 1.35kg (3lbs) oxtail cut in 5cm/2in lengths
- 4 tablespoons beef dripping
- 680g (1½ lbs) onions, chopped
- 300ml (½ pint) red wine
- 2.25 litres (4 pints) beef broth or water
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 stick cinnamon
- 2 bay leaves
- Small piece of orange or tangerine peel
- 4 tablespoons dry sherry

Put the oxtail pieces in a bowl, cover them with cold water, and leave them to soak for at least an hour. Rinse and dry them well.

Melt the dripping in a frying pan and when it is hot, brown the oxtail quickly on all sides. Transfer the meat to a large heavy pan. Add the onion to the frying pan and reduce the heat. Cook the onion until it is transparent and almost tender.

While the onion is frying add the red wine to the oxtail and boil it on a high heat until the wine has reduced to a few spoonfuls. Now add the onions to the oxtail and the broth or water. Season lightly with salt and pepper and add the cinnamon, bay leaves and peel. Simmer, uncovered, until the meat is falling off the bones – about four hours.

Strain the soup into a large bowl or a clean pan. Allow the oxtail to cool a little, then carefully pick off all the lean meat. Discard the bones and gristle. Chop the meat finely and return it to the soup. Allow the soup to become completely cold so that the fat solidifies on its surface. It can then be removed and discarded.

Just before serving, reheat the soup (there should be about 2 litres/3½ pints). Adjust the seasoning and add the sherry.

Classic French onion soup is another dish that is satisfying enough to be almost a meal in itself. But there is no point in trying to make it in a tearing hurry. Although the ingredients could not be simpler – onions, butter, stock or water, bread and cheese – the way the onions are cooked very slowly at the beginning is what gives the soup its special sweetness. A whole panful of thinly sliced onion rings is cooked slowly in butter until they are meltingly tender and only then, on a slightly higher heat, are they allowed to caramelize enough to give the soup its distinctive taste and rich colour. At this stage the onions must be watched carefully because if they brown too darkly the soup will be flavoured with bitter, burnt caramel, which is not the idea at all.

French onion soup
Serves four

- 900g (2lbs) large onions
- 55g (2ozs) butter
- 1.2 litres (2 pints) beef stock or water
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 4 or 8 slices of French bread about 1cm (⅓ inch) thick
- 4 or 8 tablespoons finely grated Gruyère and Parmesan cheeses mixed

Peel the onions and slice them thinly in rings. Melt the butter in a large sauté or frying pan and add all the onions. Cook them, covered, on a low heat for about 30 minutes, or until they are very tender.

Then raise the heat and remove the lid. Cook the onions, stirring frequently, until they are a rich golden brown, but still soft and on no account crisp. This will probably take a further 30 minutes or so. Add the stock, bring to the boil and simmer the soup for about 15 minutes. Skim off the fat and season to taste with salt and pepper.

The soup is finished by floating the bread on its surface.

In an ideal world shrimp bisque would always be made with freshly caught raw shrimps. Sadly these are not a commodity that everyone has access to. The cooked and frozen shrimps still in their shells, which fishmongers thaw (or not as the case may be) and sell loose, will probably have to do. Double or treble the quantities to serve four or six.

Shrimp bisque
Serves two

- 225g (8oz) cooked shrimps or prawns in their shells
- 30g (1oz) butter
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 small carrot, finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon cognac
- 4 tablespoons white wine
- 450ml (¾ pint) light fish stock or water
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 sprig thyme
- 2 or 3 sprigs of parsley
- 4 tablespoons of double cream
- 1 egg yolk

Peel shrimps. Finely chop their meat and set it aside. Break up the shells, heads and all, with a pestle and mortar, grinding them very finely.

Melt the butter in a heavy pan and add the onion, carrot and pounded shells. Cook on a low heat, stirring frequently, for about 10 minutes.

Stir in the cognac, wine, fish stock or water, a little salt and pepper and the thyme and parsley. Bring to the boil and simmer the soup for a further 10 minutes.

Pass the soup through a fine sieve into a clean pan, or line any sieve with muslin or cheesecloth and pass the liquid through it to remove all the pieces of shell. Add the finely chopped shrimp meat and heat it through.

Stir the egg yolk into the cream and stir this liason into the hot, but not boiling, soup. Heat it carefully without boiling until the soup thickens a little. Check the seasoning and serve it immediately.

THE TIMES DIARY

The puck stops here

Ice hockey players are not noted for their gentleness and tolerance, but Norway's unsuccessful Olympic team seem to have taken things a bit far even for a sport that thrives on violence. Drowning their sorrows in a Sarajevo restaurant, the Norwegians got into an argument over the bill, with the result that manager Gier Myhre threw a punch at netminder Jim Martinsen, who cracked his head against a table and had to be taken home on a stretcher. The penalty suggested by sports authorities in Norway – where alcohol is controlled by a state monopoly – is that their internationals should be banned from drinking while abroad. It sounds like typical Scandinavian overkill, until you realize that what the players were fighting over was a mere seven kroner (about 50p).

● **Despite conciliatory noises from Buenos Aires, our lads in the Falklands remain resolutely alert. The other day an unidentified blip appeared on the radar and was promptly dispatched. It turned out to be a large bird. I hope it wasn't an albatross.**

Royal touch

Alan Eden-Green, who retired recently as director of the Industry and Parliament Trust, has been appointed the first honorary fellow of the trust, which exposes peers and MPs to the realities of industrial life through studying courses culminating in fellowships. Eden-Green's response was rather more parliamentary than industrial. At a House of Lords dinner he presented Lord Irving, chairman of the trustees, with a gavel and block made of oak from panelling in the old Commons and set in mahogany from the most exclusive room in the Lords – the sovereign's lavatory.

By proxy

Sir John Junor, editor of the *Sunday Express*, has missed the opportunity to crown his long and distinguished career with the rectorship of his alma mater, Glasgow University. Apparently the great man was too busy to sign the letter of consent for his nomination and left that task to one of his minions. The rules require a personal signature, however, so Sir John's nomination has been declared invalid. The remaining nominees are Yassir Arafat; the comedian Rikki Fulton; Matthew Lygate, who recently ended a 12-year jail sentence for bank robbery on behalf of the Scottish Workers' Republican Army; the Lord Provost of Glasgow, Dr Michael Kelly; Jeffrey Archer and Menzies Campbell, former Scottish Liberal chairman and Olympic sprinter.

Lingua franca

On one thing at least, the recently warring Sinhalese and Tamils of Sri Lanka can agree – the value of the English language. Last week, three seminars on the role of English in Sri Lankan life, organized by the English-Speaking Union, drew capacity crowds and speakers from all communities on the beautiful but sometimes troubled island. Then on Monday, President Jayawardene, patron of the island's ESU branch set up two years ago, gave his approval to an ESU-sponsored programme of English teaching throughout the country, particularly in rural areas. The ESU now hopes for similar success in another sensitive island, Malta, where it is in contact with Dom Mintoff with a view to setting up a branch.

BARRY FANTONI



'Good thing this isn't Britain – we'd be arrested for kerb crawling'

Cooking the books

Chefs are falling over their pots and pans to join in a tribute at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, this summer to Antoine Carême, born 200 years ago on June 8. Carême who cooked for Napoleon, Talleyrand, the emperors of Austria and Russia and our own Prince Regent - is regarded as the father of modern French cuisine. The idea of a Brighton banqueting weekend to celebrate his bicentenary was conceived by an American, David Segal, a visiting professor at Oxford and collector of historic cookbooks. Invitations to the leading chefs of France were sent by Anton Mosimann of the Dorchester, and the response has been "terrific". Among those expected are Michel Guérard, Alain Saenderens, Paul Bocuse and Roger Vergé. The Parisian *pâtissier* Gaston Lenôtre will model a sugar statue and Michel Roux, Britain's own *meilleur ouvrier de France* in *pâtisserie* plans to recreate some 15 of Carême's famous 5ft high *pièces montées* castles of cold buffet. It should, says Segal, be "as photogenic as all hell".

PHS

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

And in the blue corner, Monty Verdi

Caliban lives. I deduce this from the goings-on at the Royal Festival Hall and its two adjacent concert-rooms, the Queen Elizabeth Hall and Purcell Room; all three are owned by the GLC, as the heirs of the LCC which built them, and not long ago the rulers of the GLC sacked the manager and took over the direct running of the halls themselves.

One of the earliest fruits of the change was the scandal of the Soviet propaganda exhibition staged there (at a peppercorn rent); when the details were being worked out, the GLC did not even insist on being allowed to stage a reciprocal exhibition in Moscow, so eager were they to let Londoners know that the Soviet Union is a peace-loving democracy, brimming over with freedom, prosperity and scrupulous concern for the neighbours. (Mind you, a GLC-sponsored exhibition about us would probably have depicted little but accounts of the oppressed wage-slaves in today's Britain and of their struggle to obtain the vote and the right to form trade unions, with huge oil-paintings by Mr Michael Meacher of the said wage-slaves being batoned by police wearing swastika armbands.)

Ever since, the GLC has been resisting, by evasion and delay, any attempt to let Londoners see the other side of the argument, and even now, when they have at last made a half-hearted apology for the Soviet show, they have made it clear that they will not permit any serious or general criticism of the Soviet Union on premises under their control; their only concession is to allow a group working on behalf of Jews who wish to leave the Soviet Union to participate in an Amnesty International exhibition.

At the same time, the new rule at the RFH has brought some substantial improvements – the very attractive liveliness that the foyers now display, largely owing to the outstanding service provided in the buffets by the new caterers, and the improved box office arrangements. (There are the usual rubbishy "souvenirs" on sale, of course, but even these are more than set off by the excellent bookshop.)

All the same, whatever happens in the surroundings of a concert-hall, good or bad or both, it will and must be judged by what happens inside it. So far, nothing very different has taken place; the GLC have put on various performances and exhibitions in furtherance of their political beliefs (though none, of course, furthering contrary views), but the music remains much the same. As far as I know, there have been no suggestions that bookings will be more readily accepted if the programmes contain more of the works of Alan Bush or loyal contemporary Soviet composers, nor has anybody hinted that putting on performances by Rostropovich, Ashkenazy and other defectors from their glorious Soviet fatherland will be looked on askance. I think I detect a slight tendency to dilute the contents of programmes with a higher proportion of very familiar works, but that, if it is happening, could well be defended (if, indeed, it needs to be defended at all) as sensible commercial practice by the promoters.

Now, however, Caliban has emerged from his lair, blinking at the light and mumbling his watchword: elitist. Mr Peter Pitt, chairthing of the GLC committee under whose auspices the South Bank halls are run, has determined that "We want more working class and black audiences". It is a laudable desire, and he is not the first to feel it; the WEA and many similar organizations were conceived in the same spirit. But there is one great, and terrible, difference between the pioneers of art for the masses and the present attitude of the GLC. The former wanted – it was, in many cases, the mainspring of their existence – to illumine the lives of the poor, the uneducated, the despairing, by making sure that they had cheap access to the best that art and craft had created throughout the ages. The wiser among these pioneers knew that those who availed themselves of what was offered would always be a minority, as indeed they have always been a minority among the rich, the educated and the confident; but the pioneers, from William Morris to Arnold Wesker, as they laboured in this field, have always preferred to light candles rather than curse the darkness.

But they never wanted to burn people with the candles. Mr Pitt says "I don't think many people from my constituency of Hounslow go to the South Bank". If not, it is a pity, but it is a pity because the musical glories to be found on the South Bank – at, incidentally, ludicrously low prices (£2.80 for the *Missa Solemnis* under Haitink, £1.50 for Ida Haendel playing the Beethoven Violin Concerto, £2.30 for Bach's *St. John Passion*) – would enrich the lives of the people of Hounslow, or even the life of Mr Pitt, just as much as they enrich mine.

Mr Pitt is not willing to go out and persuade his constituents to try a spot of Chopin, Mozart and other long-haired intellectuals. No, his approach can be understood from the following statement of his credo: "There are class and race institutionalized barriers here that need to be broken". Before a claim as mad and pitiful as that (what West Indian, what labourer, has ever been refused service at the RFH Box Office, or sneered at by the white toffs in the next seat?), Beethoven himself would have been tempted to erase the bit about *Seid umschlungen, Millionen* in the Ninth Symphony. But Mr Pitt's intention, which might well have struck Goering as a bit extreme, is now clear. If the masses will not go to art, so much the worse for art. *Delenda est Carthago.*

Therefore, it is announced, we are to have wrestling and snooker at the Festival Hall; parallel delights are being devised for the QEH and the Purcell Room. When the four principal symphony orchestras were asked to think of ways to increase South Bank audiences, the management of the Royal Philharmonic suggested bussing in factory workers, and the LPO proposed to add the Festival Hall to the Albert Hall as a venue for its industrial concerts. But such plans were rejected, and soon the grunts and groans of the judo-artists will mingle with the click of the balls on the green baize, in place of the sounds that South Bank audiences since 1951 and indeed audiences all over the world for half a thousand years, have been used to.

Well, well, we must move with the times. But we need not move with them before expressing our opinion of them. The contempt of the far left for the people whose interests they claim to have at heart in notorious. At election-time the workers have been "brainwashed by the media"; at public libraries they cannot be trusted to reject distasteful attitudes, so books containing these must be censored off the shelves; in their trade unions they might vote the wrong way if they had secret ballots for their officials, so they must not be allowed to have such ballots; in the Festival Hall foyer they might form views unfavourable to the Soviet Union if such views are on offer there, so offer them access to favourable ones only; and upstairs in the auditorium let them be content with the pig-swill that is all they deserve or are capable of enjoying.

Surely this must be the only era in history, other than that of Nazi Germany, in which excellence is not something to admire and strive for, to encourage and to share, but something to hate and mock, to root out and destroy. In education, the whole thrust of the left is to pull down anything that might set standards for emulation. In housing, the local authority that insists that all front doors must be the same colour is driven by the same hunger for uniformity among the masses. In politics, the growing intolerance on the left – displayed in the hounding out of Labour MPs who will not toe the new line and the shouting down of any opposing voice at meetings – has reached epidemic proportions. And in art, anything that has provided for human beings, and can still provide, a literally infinite breadth and depth of beauty, passion, enlightenment, understanding, inspiration and balm is "elitist", and must be rejected.

Caliban lives indeed; and he was always averse to seeing his face in the mirror. But now he has people to smash the mirror for him, and the seven years' bad luck that breaking a mirror entails will be borne by the rest of us. And paid for by us, too; the Festival Hall interior will have to be practically rebuilt for an evening of wrestling or snooker, all at prodigious cost. But Caliban now has unlimited access to our money, and unlimited willingness to spend it for his own dark ends. Art on the South Bank, it seems, may have to go into exile, like the government of a nation subjugated by tyranny, until the GLC is swept away and the free republic of true civilization restored.

Iran's classroom cannon fodder

As the Gulf war continues its savage course, Richard Dowden reports on the toll of children sent into battle for the greater glory of Khomeini

The United Nations mission due in Iran and Iraq later this week to assess civilian damage in the Gulf war will be bombarded with propaganda from both pot and kettle. Each side has declared it will stop shelling and bombing the other's civilian areas – a militarily wasteful activity – but there is no doubt that they would resume the attacks if they feared that failure to deliver tit-for-tat revenge might appear as weakness.

Neither Saddam Husain of Iraq nor Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran has shown much regard for the sanctity of human life. The Gulf war is essentially about the political careers of these two men. Who falters, dies. Both must keep fighting to survive politically. But neither side has yet had the strength to win, so for three and a half years soldiers and sometimes civilians have been fed into the war machine in their thousands.

In October 1982 an Iraqi major in the front line near Khanaquin told me. "The Iranians send in waves of children. They use them instead of tactics.

"We captured 34 of them just south of here. The youngest was about eight. He cried for his mother. The troops were shocked when they discovered they had been killing children. I have never captured an Iranian officer. They force the children to clear the minefields".

In a Tehran hospital a year later I met children like those the major had spoken of, some of them possibly the victims of his artillery. Ward after ward was filled with rows of young men lying quietly, some with eyes closed, others staring at the ceiling, legs or arms in traction, chests or heads bandaged.

There are no precise figures, but casualties on both sides could total half a million. In that hospital you could feel that monstrous oblivion of lives.

Abusa Rajabzarda, at 20, was one of the older ones. Two days before a bullet had passed through his pelvis, smashing his spinal cord. "I had gone forward to defuse a mine – I had two sharp sticks for finding them." Was that the usual method?



"That is the way we find the mines, by pressing the sticks into the ground. Then the bullet hit me."

Ghasam Ardastani, much younger, was in the Basij, the Islamic volunteer force. His leg had been shattered by shrapnel at the battle for Panjevin. He said he had been at the front a year and had lost about 15 friends in that time. What did his mother feel about it? "My mother is happy for me to go." What would he do when he left hospital? "I want to go back to the front."

Akbar Sworavora, also a volunteer, was barely 15 when he went to the front. He had been in hospital for 13 months. He was carrying a rocket launcher when he was hit in both legs. One had been amputated; the other was infected.

Although children are obviously involved, it may be more accurate to say that the Iranian government allows them to fight rather than forces them. The Khomeini regime is loath to stand in the way of a young man who wants to go to heaven, and death at the front is martydom for the cause of Islam, meriting instant salvation.

It is also clear that tactics differ little from the western front offensives of the First World War. Large numbers of lightly equipped troops, often the young volunteers, push forward in waves two or three hundred at a time, only sometimes preceded by an artillery bombardment and rarely given air cover.

I also saw evidence in the hospitals that Saddam Husain is playing dirty. I, and a number of British doctors visiting Tehran, were convinced that Iraq is using some form of mustard gas. As one diplomatic source said, "It is far more effective than a lethal agent; it fills hospital beds, affects people who handle victims, forces the enemy to spend large sums on protective clothing but disperses from the battlefield quickly enough to allow the users to take territory."

There were civilian casualties in the hospital wards too. A 15-year-old girl from Gilangarb had been walking home from school with friends last October when they saw six airplanes. "We thought they were Iranian, but then three of them started shooting at the streets and three dropped bombs. My sister and two others were killed." She lay with both legs in plaster, her face and arms scarred.

Other visitors to Iran have been shown towns heavily damaged by Soviet-built short-range Scud B missiles. One lurid pamphlet produced by the Iranians contains photograph of dismembered bodies of children at a school at Behbahan, said to have been hit by a missile last October.

Saddam Husain wants a short, sharp punch below the belt which he claims to believe will make Iranians see sense and reject Khomeini.

Khomeini wants a long war which will keep his revolution at boiling point at home, wear out Iraq's resources and encourage the Iraqis to rise up and overthrow Saddam Husain.

In fact each leader is far more secure than the other likes to pretend. Nothing short of natural death or assassination will fundamentally change the leadership of either country.

Both speak the language of Armageddon from time to time; Iraq threatening to bomb Kharg Island and Iran threatening to close the Gulf. These dire warnings gain prominence because at least they provide something new to say about the war, but military and political analysts tend to dismiss them as rhetoric. Neither side has yet been able to cut or even grasp the other's jugular.

Meanwhile the young men slog it out on the barren battlefields, and this week the graveyards and hospitals of both countries will again be overflowing with the victims.

New words for old, by Philip Howard

No, I'm still chairy

It's not a lot of bottle, but I think that we can take the matter of marbles a stage further. The question is: how do we come to say that somebody has lost his or her marbles; and are the marbles referred to thought of as rattling around the head, or somewhere lower down the body?

I have been sent persuasive examples of marbles uses as rhyming slang for testicles, in the manner of raspberry, butcher's, berk, scarper, loaf, and ginger, as in "he's a bit ginger". In this sense the rhyme is with "marble halls", as in "I dreamt I dwelt in marble halls" from Balfe's *The Bohemian Girl.*

This explanation sheds no light on the origin of marbles in the sense of brains. I have had several letters from the North of England suggesting that these marbles are an anglicized pronunciation of the French *meubles.* In both Yorkshire and Lancashire an elderly person who is still with-it can be said to have all his/her chairs at 'ome.

The suggested scenario goes like this. Lancashire woman emigrates to Canada and marries French Canadian. The scene is probably set in Quebec. Lancashire woman comments to a friend that she has all her chairs at home. Friend subsequently behaves in foolish manner. Husband, with imperfect command of Lancashire idiom, says that friend seems to have lost her *meubles.*

In support of this theory we can cite the German slang about somebody who is lacking a penny in the shilling, "he hasn't got everything in the cupboard." The *meubles* explanation is ingenious, charming, and I don't believe a word of it. It is too tidy by half.

The London slang for somebody who has lost his marbles used to be that he had a screw loose, or was not quite the ticket. My impression is that both these phrases sound old-fashioned today. A more recent American idiom says that he is not playing with a full deck. The most modern slang for the condition is that somebody has toys in the attic. It comes from the Rockspeak of the teenage revolution.

There's not a lot of bottle in such etymological speculations. Which brings us back to that puzzling bottle, which is such a vogue slang phrase at present. This is partly brought about by the Milk Marketing Board's advertising campaign about gotta lotta bottle.

As often, the slang is not new, but a revival, which has slightly modified its meaning. In *The Swell's Night Guide*, published in 1846, "no bottle" is defined as meaning no good or useless, with this example: "She thought it would be no bottle, cos her rival would go in a buster." Today bottle is used to mean something like courage or firmness or resolve. To have a lot of bottle is to have what used to be described as a lot of spunk. But whence the bottle, and wherefore? More rhyming slang, would you say? If so, what is the rhyme?

Phillip Whitehead

Mrs Thatcher's leg before

In a quiet moment on June 9 last year Mrs Thatcher was cornered by her daughter Carol for a frank and fearless interview. Part of it went like this:

Carol: "Do you ever find the limitations and restrictions on normal things you can do too much to bear?"

Mrs T: "Not too much to bear. No, one just has to get used to it. You know that if I go shopping it's not a quiet operation."

Carol: "That's for sure."

Mrs Thatcher's shopping trip to Oman – selling, not buying – was not a quiet operation either, to her distress. As she sees it, she "batted for Britain" with the Omanis. She was briefed to raise three possible areas of involvement in Sultan Qaboos's university project. She did so. Her personal style means that she is seen as an effective saleswoman for British enterprise abroad, and a guarantor of the consequent expenditure at home if the orders come in. No harm in that.

Was there any harm in Mr Mark Thatcher also being on the scene, with a financial interest in the firm principally involved? Why should there be public disquiet about that? Is Mr Thatcher's consultancy, like his sister's journalism, any more than the deployment of modest talents to maximum advantage, in ways which are no concern of Downing Street?

The Prime Minister would answer all these questions in the negative. She is fiercely protective of her family. It conflicts with what is otherwise one of her most formidable features, which even her political opponents respect; her devastating candour. Only on this issue has the candour vanished. She has clammed up instead. In doing so she has turned the Omani affair from a small distraction to a major irritant. In all honesty, she should think again. All prime ministers know that there are limitations to what their immediate family can do, which they transgress at their peril.

No one is suggesting that Mrs Thatcher goes out of her way to secure business commissions for her son. She may have been as surprised as her officials when he turned up in Oman in April 1981. But it strains credulity to believe that she did not ask him what he was doing there, and thus knew the connexion with Cementation or its subsidiaries, when the firm was the only British bidder for the university contract which she was discussing with Sultan Qaboos. This link with Cementation was subsequently denied, in the face of strenuous press inquiries, until Mr Thatcher himself confirmed it in the *The Sunday Times.*

The reason for such reticence, and the level or levels of his involvement, remain unclear, as does the financial rewards which accrued. But it does not really matter whether Mr Thatcher was paid £3,000 or £300,000 for his role as a fixer. Had he been a consultant engineer on the project, or an academic on secondment at a later stage, his precise role and salary could have been established. Because they are not, rumour festers.

The Prime Minister and her advisers have dismissed the matter in two terse letters to Mr Peter Shore. The letters say merely that she did not mention Cementation by name, or any other company, in Oman. In the context, there was no other company involved. There is no allegation of discrimination in favour of Cementation. The question is rather about Cementation's unpublicized and temporary employee. I cannot believe that the Prime Minister misunderstands it.

It is this: what should British ministers, at home or abroad, do when they are pushing for contracts – however valuable to Britain – if they know, or discover, that a close relative stands to gain? It is not a question which evaporates if the close relative turns up unasked and unexpected.

The answer should be unequivocal, unless we wish to slip into the habits of less scrupulous climes. Caesar's son should be above suspicion. Public interest requires its ruthless separation from private gain, however that sets apart the family connexions, even discriminates against them. The proper course for Mrs Thatcher, when her egregious son turned up in Oman, would have been to send him packing, with the advice that he should earn his money elsewhere. He has time enough. When his mother's active political career is over he will still no doubt grace many a board as Viscount Grantham. But no action was taken in 1981. What happened eventually got out.

A less hubristic administration than this one now is would have limited the damage. There could have been a straightforward explanation from Mark Thatcher, and an acknowledgment from Downing Street that if there had been any error or misunderstanding a clear statement of principle on family links and conflict of interests would clear it up for the future. No one believes that the Prime Minister is either a fool or a knave. She knows that limitations and restrictions attach to her office.

She may resent the fact that her son's and her husband's business deals are matters of public interest, and that they occasionally surface in a froth of unfavourable publicity. No prime minister for the past 50 years has been in this position with regard to his closest relations, living at Downing Street. There has to be a ring fence between what they do, as private individuals, and what she does, in her office of state. That requires the private deployment of that candour and courage which have been part of Mrs Thatcher's political style. Without it the unease will continue.

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

The incidentals that all add up

Last week's annual report from HMG has had a rather indifferent press. Worse than it deserved, I thought. True, a lot of asset sales are called in aid to close the gap between taxes and expenditure, and the Commons Treasury Committee – and it is not alone – thinks they should not be. True, the assumptions about the public sector wage bill look optimistic. True, also, that local authority spending is set to shrink to an extent that defies all recent experience.

But against all that the Chancellor and the Chief Secretary have built in large reserves for error. Given a rise in output and tax revenues at a much more modest rate than what is presently in prospect, the Chancellor should still have room to cut our taxes or his borrowing, or both, in years to come.

However, like Robin Cook on this page yesterday I have been looking at the White Paper to see what it tells us about longer-term trends. Not sharing the exasperation of Mr Cook, and others, at the Treasury's well-known inability to spot the difference between current spending and "*productive investments*" like Concorde and the Humber Bridge, I have concentrated on some of the less expected items. Compared with this Government's first spending plans back in 1980 we find that they are expecting their cash needs to have grown by 35 per cent by next April. So that is the mean. There are naturally wide disparities around it.

It is small wonder, for example, that Mrs Thatcher should be casting a beady eye on the Ministry of Agriculture. On the latest predictions, by this time next year the cost of its programmes will have gone up by 50 per cent in five years (and the bill for 1984/85 is now expected to be almost 25 per cent higher than the Treasury thought it would be only 12 months ago). The bulk of this, needless to say, is directly attributable to EEC farm support. But we cannot blame Brussels for the even bigger rise – 56 per cent – in the cost of research and advisory services. If these are worth having, surely they should be worth paying for by those who use them.

At the top of the heap are social security, law and order, and defence. Those of us in jobs should not begrudge the fact that the bill for the victims of the structural changes in our economy is expected to have risen one and a half times since 1980; and law and order and defence are Conservative priorities endorsed by the electorate. But the rise in the pay element at the Home Office – 38 per cent over a period during which the public sector wage bill is expected to have grown by 27 per cent – looks generous. And what are we to make of legal aid?

The other day that leading luminary of the solicitors' profession, Sir David Napley, told us that "almost every informed person considers that actions for defamation should be brought within the ambit of legal aid. They are not, because of the misguided belief... that the inclusion of defamation would involve an unwarranted increase in state expense".

The layman, confronted with the revelation that the cost of legal aid is expected to have risen by 70 per cent in five years, and reading that Sir David's own bill for the ratepayers of West Yorkshire after the Helen Smith inquest ran to £164 an hour (including what he calls a "mark-up" of £82 an hour), might be inclined to pray that the Treasury may stay misguided.

Another unconsidered trifle that does not come cheap is democracy. By next April, the mother of Parliaments is forecast to be costing £71m a year to run – an increase of almost two thirds in five years. Whether the nation feels itself to be two thirds better represented must be a matter of subjective judgment.

Then there is "overseas aid and other overseas services". Judging by the regular denunciations of this government's miserly attitude to its international obligations, one would expect expenditure under this heading to be on a swiftly shrinking scale. Not so: it is expected to have grown by 41 per cent. Once again payments to the EEC figure largely, but aid proper is up by more than a quarter and the cost of overseas representation has soared by almost 60 per cent. That seems a lot, when all allowance has been made for unfavourable exchange rate movements.

Nor is the health service very obviously the Cinderella that its lobbyists declare it to be. By the end of the next financial year its current spending (after allowing for charges) is scheduled to have risen by 36 per cent. The real growth stock here is the family practitioner service, which will cost us half as much again as it did at the beginning of the decade. Let us hope the GPs' pay review board bears that in mind when it considers the BMA's request for a 17 per cent pay increase next month.

Correction

The presidential election in El Salvador is on March 25, not February 25, as stated yesterday.



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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Multinational Force is no more. Britain's gallant hundred were whisked out of Beirut on the very first day of the present fighting. Now the Italians have gone, making the victory sign (victory?), and the Americans are on their way to the ships. The French alone are holding out for a UN force to replace them, but even they have given up supporting President Gemayel. "France is always on the winning side," say the Christians bitterly.

It was all a misunderstanding really. The West went into Beirut thinking it would be accepted as a neutral force to hold the ring. Instead it found itself lumbered with the role of protector of Maronite power, engaged in a trial of wills with the Syrians and their allies which it never stood any chance of winning. If Israel with its much more immediate interest in Lebanon had found the going too rough, what chance was there that states a thousand or more miles away, which did not know what they were fighting for or indeed whether they were supposed to be fighting at all, would stay the course?

So Syria and Israel are left alone with the Lebanese. Israel has washed its hands of the Gemayel family, no longer seeks or believes in a strong and friendly Lebanese state, but remains acutely apprehensive about the consequences of a Syrian victory. Syria, having got rid of the Multinational Force without making a single concession, may now believe it can do the same to the Israelis.

Certainly Israeli ambitions in Lebanon are much reduced. Mr Shamir no longer speaks of simultaneous Syrian withdrawal, only of improved security arrangements on Israel's northern border – arrangements he expects to make with local forces rather than with a new government in Beirut. Mr Uri Lubrani, the architect of Israel's Lebanese policy in its post-Sharon phase, has not despaired of an understanding with the Shia community in the south which, he points out, shares Israel's interest in preventing the return of the Palestinian guerrillas, and of which (he says) the pro-Khomeini extremists are only a fraction. It appears that Israel is also seeking to strengthen the Christian element in the south by encouraging Christian villagers to move down there, away from the fighting in the Beirut region.

Farther north, Israel still counts on the Druze. Her recent attacks on Druze-held areas, like the big military demonstration north of the Awali in the last two days, are not part of a belated attempt to save President Gemayel but rather a way of keeping up the pressure on the Druze not to allow "terrorists" to get near the Israeli lines. "We hope the Druze will be capable of carrying out this task", explained Mr Arens, the Israeli defence minister, in his American television interview on Sunday.

Mr Arens also said that, in the absence of a Lebanese government ready to commit itself to preventing the "terrorists" from using its territory to attack Israel, the Israeli Army would have to stay in Lebanon. It is not yet clear whether this means that he does not share his colleagues' confidence in the idea of a Shiite-Christian buffer zone, or whether he was simply warning the Syrians and their allies not to take Israeli withdrawal for granted.

Clearly they would be unwise to do that. There is indeed strong pressure for withdrawal from public opinion inside Israel. But Israel cannot just walk away from Lebanon as the West is doing. It has to get credible guarantees of security for its northern frontier. If the Syrians really want Israel withdrawal, they will have to allow such guarantees to be given by someone – whether it is a new government in Beirut or a de facto authority in the south. If it is a government in Beirut formed under Syrian influence, then the guarantees, to be credible, would have to be underwritten by Syria herself. An understanding between Syria and Israel could be reached indirectly, through the United States, as it was in 1976.

But Syria may not want to pay this price for Israeli withdrawal. She may prefer to keep Israel on the rack in southern Lebanon, wearing her out by encouraging violent resistance against her rule and against any surrogates to whom she may hope to hand over. That would be a dangerous option because Israel could decide, if the pressure became intolerable, to respond with the all-out attack on Syria which many Israelis believe to be inevitable sooner or later in any case, because Syria's pretentions to regional hegemony are not compatible with Israeli security.

Meanwhile, Syria and her allies have unfinished business in Beirut. The problem is not so much President Gemayel as the Christian population, barricaded in East Beirut behind the "Lebanese Forces" and what is left of the army. Maronite power over the rest of Lebanon may have been broken, but Shiite-Druze power cannot be imposed on Maronite Lebanon without a bloodbath which would surpass in horror all that has gone before. President Assad is waiting for the Christians to appeal to him to save them from that, as they did in 1976. Then the search for yet another Lebanese compromise will begin.

ALL LEFT TO MESSINA

The function of Mr Kinnock's dissertation on Europe (published in *New Socialist*) is easier to discern than its prescription for the shape of things to come. Its function is first of all to serve the party through the forthcoming elections to the European Parliament. The uncompromising thumbs down to the Community contained in Labour's most recent election manifesto and various conference resolutions, and so in some formal sense still party policy, is too negative to be comfortable for campaigning. It exposes Labour candidates to the jibe, "If your party's so keen to get out, why should we put you in?"

The election, though intrinsically marginal to British politics, is rated important as a measurement and determinant of the parties' relative standing, not least the relative standing of the opposition parties. So it is sensible of Mr Kinnock to set a more positive framework within which his party's candidates can fight the election.

Looking beyond the European election, it is also in Labour's interests to have somewhere else to stand than on the narrow ground of withdrawal. For that, a position is required which combines disapproval of the present set-up with vague and preferably idealistic sounding ideas about how it might be improved. "Renegotiation" was the formula in the early 1970s. Mr Kinnock's "new Messina" succeeds it.

The aim is set down as a wider, more generous Europe – for Europeans, not for the United States, the Soviet Union, multinationals, financiers or agribusiness (a nice touch that, the addition to the litany of a *nouvelle-vague* demon). A Europe freed from the market economy philosophy of the Treaty of Rome; promoting cooperation not integration; pursuing "modern" full employment policies, the only clue to the meaning of which is that governments are failing to use "the mountains of money now lying idle in property or in the stock market"; blessed with accountability to democratic authority of multinational capital; yet emancipated from the directives of a Brussels bureaucracy; instigating a "new Bretton Woods" for the establishment of a new world economic order, with the United States or without it if necessary; dedicating in respect of every member state 0.7 per cent of gross domestic product to aid for the Third World; playing a role in détente and disarmament with its sights fixed on the goal of a nuclear-free Europe. The thing may be conceived as a vast canvas on which, in a few bold expressionist strokes, the full Kinnock thinking is realized.

As for structures, as for how one gets from the present Community which is no more than "a food price fixing system with a common external tariff" to that airy destination. Mr Kinnock leaves it all to Messina. It would be for her to decide how to relate the present institutions of western Europe to "today's needs and tomorrow's responses"; whether all European parties should be invited to send representatives to a new assembly, and all European governments (not just today's ten) be invited to join a new European council – elsewhere in his article he notes with disfavour that the EEC excludes East European countries not only from membership but also from "political dialogue".

It is an irony Mr Kinnock will not have missed that a "new Messina", to which he looks to shake out the supranationalism of the Community and transfer power from its institutions to component governments, has long been the catchphrase of the federalists of the Community who look to the same device to perform the opposite trick.

With mounting dissatisfaction at the distortions of the Community, and with its institutions locked in a state of budgetary crisis, it is a time for big breezy thoughts about its future. You cannot quantify *élan*, Mr Harold Wilson said when he had run out of economic arguments in favour of British attachment to the Common Market. Mr Kinnock goes one better: you cannot particularize it either. Visionary vagueness assists the immediate intra-party purpose of Mr Kinnock's European essay. But if it is meant to be taken seriously elsewhere he will have to clarify its content and cope with its contradictions.

MR BOTHA AND MR MACHEL

A new sense of realism about the political facts of life in Southern Africa is shown by the agreements on security, trade and other matters reached this week between South Africa and Mozambique. Coming hard on the heels of an agreement between South Africa and Angola, it gives reason for a degree of optimism about the southern tip of the continent, and that has been a rare commodity for some years.

There have been concessions on both sides. Mozambique came to independence in 1975 as a Marxist state, the friend and client of the Soviet Union, dedicated to the overthrow of apartheid in the republic across its border and willing to accommodate the African National Congress while it plotted subversion. On the other hand, many of those in power in South Africa thought only a few years ago that their only possible policy was to plan the overthrow of President Samora Machel. Support was provided for the MNR rebels, the economic screw was turned at times and the republic did not hesitate to send armed incursions into Mozambique territory or to plot the murder of such people as Ruth First, killed by a letter bomb in Maputo.

Now all is changed. Mozambique has been brought to its knees as much by its own ill-chosen policies, as by the successful operation of the rebels and other South African pressures. The Soviet Union, as so often in Africa, proved a broken reed in times of real trouble. And as a result it is turning west, opening its borders to South African tourists, allowing South African goods to flow through its ports, and accepting aid and investment from Pretoria. Another reward will be the ending of South African support for the rebels. A price will be restricting the activities of the ANC.

The South African concession is accepting that President Machel is here to stay, that life is possible with a Marxist, black neighbour. In one sense Mozambique is surrendering, but South Africa is displaying some magnanimity in victory. As with the agreement on the other side of the continent, there are gains for all sides in the conclusion of a deal.

On the one hand, provided it discards its Marxist economic policies, Mozambique can expect some economic upturn – at present the shops are all empty in the cities, the peasants are often hungry and the country is as bankrupt as a country can be. On the other hand, South Africa can expect a greater degree of border security. This is of benefit to others apart from the ruling circles in what has been called a Bothacracy. Change in South Africa cannot be imported: it will come when South Africans bring it about. If the ANC is denied the possibility of having a base for its terrorist forays it will have to concentrate on re-establishing its base within the country and involving itself in the very different kind of struggle now taking place.

The question that remains is the extent to which Mr Piet Botha and his government are prepared to carry this new realism within South Africa, having now applied it beyond the border. Is it a change of heart or merely the successful outcome of the stick and carrot policy – the stick of overwhelming military power and the carrot of economic dominance, which shows up the incompetence of South Africa's neighbours? Internal progress will be more difficult an exercise, as retreats always are. "We must adapt or die," Mr Botha said on a famous occasion. The choice is still before him.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Police detention safeguards

From the Minister of State, Home Office

Sir, Mr Bindman's article yesterday ("96 hours: time to think again", February 20) gave a thoroughly misleading account of the main provisions on detention which the standing committee of the House of Commons approved on February 16.

Mr Bindman conveys the impression that the Bill gives the police new powers of detention without charge. But under the present law there is no absolute or fixed limit on the time for which an arrested person may be detained before being brought before a court and no machinery for the independent review of detention (other than *habeas corpus*). There have been cases of detention for over a week where the courts have later upheld the conviction.

Under the Bill we are for the first time establishing that the normal maximum for detention without charge will be 24 hours. The police will be able to hold someone beyond 24 hours only if he is being held in connexion with a serious arrestable offence and if his further detention is necessary to secure, preserve or obtain evidence for an investigation which is being diligently and expeditiously conducted.

For the first time, at 36 hours (though Mr Bindman forgot to mention it) there will have to be a hearing before a magistrate's court, at which the person concerned and his legal representative will be able to argue against further detention.

During the debate in the standing committee I accepted in principle that no order by a magistrate's court should authorise further detention for more than 36 hours. For the first time the law will place an absolute limit of 96 hours on detention without charge.

The royal commission looked at the Scottish provisions which Mr Bindman cites and decided that they were not relevant to the different legal system in England and Wales. I gave the standing committee examples of the cases, small in number but very serious in character, where the police have needed more than 24 or 36 hours to complete an investigation.

The question is whether in such cases, however valid the police case for further detention, however serious the offence, the investigation should have to be broken off and the detained person set free. We believe that this would expose the public to unreasonable risk.

The power to detain for questioning is necessary and, as the royal commission said, "well established". We believe that the Bill provides new strong safeguards against its misuse.

Your faithfully,
DOUGLAS HURD,
Home Office,
Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.
February 21.

Time for Antarctic fishing pact

From Mr Martin Dent

Sir, We are all aware of the story of two dogs who quarrel so vigorously over a bone that it is taken by someone else and they both lose it. Your excellent article in today's issue (February 18) on the despoliation of the fisheries within the 200-mile limit around the Falkland/Malvinas Islands shows that this is just the situation of Britain and Argentina.

The 200 miles of water contain rich resources of fish which are now being grossly over-exploited by many foreign vessels while Britain is afraid to declare a 200-mile fishing limit for fear of offending Argentina and the Argentinians cannot fish or protect the fisheries because of our 200-mile exclusion zone.

The answer is obvious: let us *share* the responsibility for the fisheries. Surely we can rise above our quarrels to see that the waters around the islands must belong to one or other of us, or to *both together*, and certainly not to third parties who are now despoiling the fisheries.

The first step between two nations in dispute over a jurisdiction and responsibility is to attempt to share that honour, duty and benefit. Let Britain and Argentina exercise jointly the administration and conservation of the fisheries in these waters, allowing only the ships of our two nations, or those we jointly license, to fish.

To perform this manageable task let us appoint a fisheries protection and development officer (perhaps an outsider to both our nations acting on behalf of us both) and give him a British and an Argentinian adviser.

We shall soon find that, though we are still unable to agree on the emotion-laden subject of "sovereignty", we can cooperate admirably to mutual benefit in the practical business of administration. Although we are not yet ready for joint sovereignty over the land and people we can at least operate it over the sea.

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN DENT,
Department of Politics,
University of Keele,
Keele,
Staffordshire.
February 18.

From Mr Stanley Johnson, MEP for Wight and Hampshire East (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, Like Mr Lyster (feature, February 18) I have recently returned from the Falklands, as well as from visiting, on board the British Antarctic Survey ship John Biscoe, South Georgia, the South Orkneys and the Antarctic peninsula itself.

I completely agree with Mr Lyster's call for a 200-mile economic zone around the Falklands. It seems likely that 250,000 tons of fish are being taken each year off the Falkland Islands, with little benefit being derived either by the British consumer or the Exchequer.

At the same time our failure to effect a fisheries regime puts at risk, as Mr Lyster rightly states, the whole marine ecosystem of the area. We are in a sense throwing away a priceless asset which was won back for Britain by great expense of blood and treasure.

The argument is sometimes advanced that declaring (and enforcing) a 200-mile economic zone around the Falklands will "upset the Argentinians" at a delicate moment of negotiation. But Argentina has had no hesitation in proclaiming its own economic zone.

Where the zones overlap there are established principles of international law for dividing the waters along the median line, and these principles could presumably be applied in this case without giving rise to diplomatic upset.

Even more important, it is as much in Argentina's interest as it is in Britain's for Britain to enforce a fisheries regime on its side of the Patagonian shelf. The current free for all must damage Argentinian stocks almost as much as our own since, biologically speaking, the resources of the Patagonian shelf are shared between the two countries.

As far as South Georgia is concerned, the arguments are even clearer. In Grytviken last week I was told that recent aerial surveys had revealed 180 ships trawling around the island. These are not British ships. They are Soviet or East European. Catching large quantities of krill, the small crustacean at the base of the Antarctic food chain, as well as fish, they may be intervening even more directly in the balance of the marine ecosystem.

Here again an economic zone around South Georgia is an indispensable tool of any effective management regime. The British Antarctic Survey, with its already established offshore biological programme, should be able to help in generating the necessary scientific data.

The South Orkneys, where I also observed heavy Soviet fishing, lie inside the Antarctic Treaty area. The urgent need there is for catch limits to be set and enforced on an international basis, having particular regard to the interaction of different elements in the food chain.

The machinery for this exists, but progress towards effective regulation is desperately slow. If the dismal history of the whaling industry is anything to go by, it may soon be too late.

Yours sincerely,
STANLEY JOHNSON,
30 Maida Avenue, W2.
February 19.

Passing judgment on television

From his Honour Lyall Wilkes

Sir, I do not know how many retired judges refused Yorkshire Television's invitation to act as "judge" in a series of television "arbitrations" before one was found who accepted (report, February 15); but I at least was approached by letter in September, 1982, and the reasons for my refusal seem sounder with each passing day and may be thought of some general importance.

1. The law is peculiarly an area in which a little knowledge on the part of the untrained is a dangerous thing. The proposed programmes can only give encouragement to the sort of exhibitionist who is in real life disposed to indulge in "do it yourself" litigation, if it is still proposed, as it was put to me in 1982, that the parties appear without legal representation. My lifetime in the law teaches me that a litigant appearing in person is a danger to himself, to the court, and to justice.

2. Litigation is, or should be, a serious business and its financial sanctions should be preserved to discourage its being used frivolously. Here encouragement will be given to the exhibitionist to have his hour of disputatious glory on television with no financial sanctions if he loses, and indeed enriched by £100 appearance money.

3. But the real objection of principle is the television assumption that all aspects of life are suitable for television, and they are not. From sexual intercourse here, to television executions in America, the public mind is increasingly debased by television.

4. If people wish to be educated as to how the courts work, nearly all courts are open to the public, where they may go and listen to real legal arguments and expertise. I am afraid they will find the proceedings very slow and dull (a prerequisite for justice being done) with not a laugh in sight.

If these proposed programmes are ever screened they will lead to further demands by television to allow their cameras into real courts (as in America) as only a further small step from what is here proposed.

Yours faithfully,
LYALL WILKES,
Dissington Garden House,
Dalton, Newcastle upon Tyne.

A life or death issue

From the Right Reverend Trevor Huddleston

Sir, The current controversy concerning the ethics of kidney transplants is in fact a life or death issue. At the heart of it lies the stark fact that many lives (over 100 in 1982) are being unnecessarily lost because of a shortage of kidneys available for transplant.

The present system of "donor cards" available to those who "opt in" has failed to produce enough cadaver kidneys to meet the need. Yet there is apparently a deep reluctance (shared by some distinguished surgeons) to support the alternative, namely, that doctors should have the automatic right to remove kidneys from a dead person unless he/she has registered an objection in his lifetime.

The gravamen of this opposition appears to be that it takes away the right of the individual and in some way destroys the good will of the public. It is in fact the same argument advanced by those who opposed compulsory wearing of seat belts. And the consequences are the same, the saving or the loss of precious lives.

Having been concerned in this particular matter of the ethics of transplant surgery over many years, I am convinced that the opting *out* procedure would not only save life but would give no offence whatever on religious or humanistic grounds. It cannot be a deprivation of rights for the donor, for he/she *has* the right to opt out.

But it certainly is a deprivation of the right to live for hundreds, if not thousands of kidney patients in this country. And I believe it should be a matter of conscience to promote life rather than to safeguard the dignity – if such it is – of a corpse.

Yours faithfully,
TREVOR HUDDLESTON,
St James's Church,
197 Piccadilly, W1.

Countryside heritage

From Mr John Hunter

Sir, This correspondence began with a reference to an Essex boundary hedge and has gone on to consider matters of age and correct management of hedges. I think there is some confusion amongst your correspondents due to geography and different methods of farming.

Sir David Scott (February 15) is correct in his description of Midland hedges which are laid and trimmed to enclose stock. In arable Essex there is little need for such fences and Mr Curtis (February 11) has described the excellent traditional practice of cutting hedges to the ground every 15 years or so; I prefer to call this "coppicing" rather than "razing" and it has the effect of invigorating the stools of the trees and shrubs which comprise the hedge.

On the matter of age, I have carefully analysed all the hedges of a 1,500 acre estate in North Essex by the method Mr Secrett has described (February 15). I found that one third of the hedgerows dated to before the Black Death (1350), some considerably earlier, and that another third were pre-1600.

Interestingly, the older hedges generally related to ancient property boundaries, watercourses, lanes and paths, and major changes in soil type. While many hedges had been removed to create economic field sizes, I believe that most of these were modern and relatively uninteresting.

In wide areas of the Midlands which were subject to parliamentary enclosure hedges consist solely of hawthorn. Consequently I think it dangerous to generalise on the basis of one's local landscapes.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HUNTER,
The Market Cross,
Thaxted,
Essex.

Conflict of skills

From Mr John Norton

Sir, The article in your Monday page on February 6 by Deborah Moggach touches a sensitive chord with insensitive abandon. In the first place, photography has little if anything to do with the skills and disciplines of portrait painting. Secondly, a good portrait surely must speak of the subject and not the social veneer. Thirdly, portraits are, in the best tradition, related to the human condition in its entirety and therefore as important, if not more so, than all the other disciplines that attempt an analysis of that condition. In short, they should be biographical.

To Carlyle, it seemed:

Often I have found a portrait superior in real instruction to half a dozen biographies .... I have found that the portrait was a small lighted candle by which the biographies could for the first time be read, and some human interpretation made of them.

Your correspondent ignores most, if not all, important factors of the art as if the subject were merely a commodity of the consumer society or the world of entertainment. Perhaps a reference to our traditions apart from the great European masters would have given readers a more sympathetic insight into one of the greatest means of recording the human condition.

These references would have included names from Thomas More, Shakespeare, Blake, Carlyle, Eliot and, of course, Holbein, Hogarth, Reynolds, Van Dyck, Wyndham Lewis and a host of others.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN NORTON,
404b Fulham Road, SW6.
February 14.

Cannon Street station

From the General Manager of British Rail (Southern)

Sir, Let me hasten to reassure the 70,000 passengers who daily use Cannon Street station that, contrary to the report in today's edition of the *The Times* (February 15) the station is not "set to close". Indeed we have just invested £10m in redecking the river bridge.

Our new timetable, which starts in May, recognises the fact that during the day most passengers coming into London from Kent are heading for the West End, which is best served by Charing Cross station. If they want Cannon Street and the City they can make an easy change at London Bridge for a frequent shuttle service. There will still be direct services throughout the morning and evening peaks.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID KIRBY, General Manager,
British Rail (Southern),
Waterloo Station,SE1.
February 15.

Making the grade

From Dr Alan R. H. Baker

Sir, Without wishing, at this stage, to contribute further to the debate about "making the grades for university", may I correct one potentially misleading statement in Ronald Butt's article (February 16)?

It is not the case that "in practice the minimum entrance requirement for success at Emmanuel will be three grade-A results at A level". Our conditional offers to pre-A-level candidates will normally ask for A-level grades of A B B, A A C, A A B or A A A and will often include a merit or distinction in one or two S-level papers. We would certainly, however, expect a high proportion of our successful candidates in practice to have obtained three grade As.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN R. H. BAKER, Tutor,
Emmanuel College,
Cambridge.
February 16.

Fate of Temple Bar

From Dr Selby Whittingham

Sir, The case of Temple Bar, about which the Temple Bar Trust writes again (February 17), is similar to that of the Carfax Conduit, another seventeenth-century monument that had to be moved to accommodate the flow of traffic.

The latter was tried, in the form of a wooden model of the same size, on various sites in Oxford, after which it was concluded that it was better left where it is in the park at Nuneham Courtenay.

The London sites proposed for Temple Bar do not suit its scale or original purpose and it would look better remaining where it is now. The cost of looking after it there could be set against the saving in not having to pay for its removal.

The neglect of these monuments of architecture and sculpture in the past, and of our native sculpture in the open air in general, has been very great, and perhaps puts into a different perspective the neglect of the Parthenon by the Greeks, who at least had the excuse of poverty and occupation by foreigners.

Yours faithfully,
SELBY WHITTINGHAM,
153 Cromwell Road, SW5.

Tom Keating as faker

From Mrs Tilly Marshall

Sir, As with many of your readers, I am well aware of *The Times*'s long commitment to the cause of the late Tom Keating. Also, like many of your readers, such a commitment shocks me. After close on 50 years as an art dealer, however, perhaps it shocks me more than most. It is one of the most astonishing pieces of misjudgment during my professional experience.

Mrs Geraldine Norman's unceasing sponsorship of the late Tom Keating gives one pause for thought. The man was not merely, as described in your press yesterday and today (February 14) "the celebrated art imitator". He was a common or garden faker. How the late Jan Van Meegeren might have wished that he, too, had been born British and of necessity, of course, the son of a charwoman. Meegeren, too, might have become the darling of *The Times* and been taken up by other of the media as a consequence.

It is incorrect to say, as stated in Rupert Morris's report, that Keating "threw the art world into such confusion that few dealers would dare discount the possibility that he has left one last joke". The majority of dealers do their homework; it was a dealer who originally spotted the Palmer fakes.

Those of us acquainted with the life of Palmer were aware he had no collector of the name given by Keating in attribution. Indeed, the best thing about the Palmer fakes was the extraordinary faking of the frames, with the right glue, the acceptable moulding, the dust. So masterly were those frames that none seeing them could have supposed other than the motive behind Keating's work was the one of materialism – whatever nonsense he professed to the contrary for a gullible public.

The late L. S. Lowry would maintain that unless some work had been commissioned from a painter, no one had asked him to paint. He could not therefore demand that his work be appreciated. He had painted what he had, only to please himself.

When Keating claimed he had done as he had in support of fellow artists dead or alive I doubt any would have appreciated the crime of another man signing their name. As a consequence Tom Keating was neither hero, joke, nor a character to be lauded, alive or dead. He was a self-confessed faker, a criminal who remained unconvicted, apparently for health reasons.

The Times appears to delight in presenting the art dealer as the unknowledgeable fool, as Keating tried to present us as the grinders-down of painters rich or poor, alive or dead. I seem to hear old L. S. Lowry asking, "What's the game, eh?"

I am, yours faithfully,
TILLY MARSHALL,
The Stone Gallery,
St Mary's Place,
Newcastle upon Tyne.
February 14.

Farewell to arms

From Mr John B. Harris

Sir, Why, do you suppose, leaders of nations professing to be peaceloving continue to have their bodies taken to burial on a *gun* carriage?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN B. HARRIS,
31 Princedale Road, W11.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 21: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her Majesty this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Master of the Corporation of the Trinity House, this morning attended a meeting between the Corporation and the General Council of British Shipping at Trinity House, London, EC3.

His Royal Highness subsequently addressed booksellers at a Reception given by Hamish Hamilton Ltd (Managing Director, Mr Christopher Sinclair-Stevenson) at Stationers' Hall, London, EC4.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this evening attended a dinner in connexion with the Award's 25th Anniversary Appeal, at the Royal Artillery Mess, Woolwich, London, SE18.

Mr Brian McGrath was in attendance.

By command of The Queen, the Lord Lyell (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this morning upon the departure of The Prince of Wales for Brunei and bade farewell to His Royal Highness on behalf of Her Majesty.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 21: The Prince of Wales left Heathrow Airport, London this morning in a Royal Air Force VC10 aircraft for Brunei, where His Royal Highness will represent The Queen at the First National Independence Celebrations.

His Royal Highness was received upon arrival at the Airport by the Baroness Phillips (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Greater London) and Mr John Field (British Airports Authority).

The Hon Edward Adeane, Mr David Roycroft and Lieutenant-Colonel David Bromhead are in attendance.

The Princess of Wales this morning visited the Royal Marsden Hospital, Sutton, Surrey.

Mrs George West, Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, RN and Mr Victor Chapman were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE, ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 21: The Duke of Kent, President of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, today opened the twentieth "British Growers' Look Ahead" National Conference and Exhibition at Harrogate, Yorkshire.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Sir Richard Buckley.

The Duchess of Kent celebrates her birthday today.

A flower gala, in aid of the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital Appeal Trust, will be held at the Mansion House (by courtesy of the Lord Mayor) on May 16 from 10.30 to 4.30.

A memorial service for Mr Kenneth Childs will be held at the Parish Church of St Olave, Hart Street, in the City of London, at 11.45 am today.

A memorial service for Theodore Crombie of Culter will be held at St Peter's, Eaton Square, SW1, on Tuesday, March 13, at noon.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M. C. Evans and Miss N. J. Clarke
The engagement is announced between Mark Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs P. R. Evans, of Chesham, Buckinghamshire, and Nicola Jane, eldest daughter of Sir Jonathan and Lady Clarke, of Bovey Tracey, Devon.

Mr S. Ainscough and Miss D. Moncrieff
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mrs Joan Ainscough and the late Mr Cyril Ainscough, of Parbold, Lancashire, and Dorothy, daughter of Mr John Moncrieff and of the late Mrs Madge Moncrieff, of Straiton, Leuchars, Fife.

Mr T. E. Corn and Miss S. C. Hopson Hill
The engagement is announced between Timothy, youngest son of the late John Corn and Mrs C. S. Cheshire, of Barlaston, Staffordshire, and Sarah, only daughter of Mr and Mrs C. J. Hopson Hill, of Burgess Hill, Sussex.

Mr S. J. Gaul and Miss A. H. Jagger
The engagement is announced between Simon Jeremy, elder son of Mr John Gaul, of Malta, and of Mrs Ann Gaul, of Kensington, London, and Alexis Harriett, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Jagger, of Berkswell, Warwickshire.

Mr R. J Harffey and Dr T. C. M. Norris
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mrs R. Harffey and the late Mr W. J. Harffey of Bagnor, Newbury, and Tessa, younger daughter of Mr E. C. Norris and the late Mrs V. Norris, of Dorking, Surrey.

Mr J. G. Jack and Miss J. E. Randles
The engagement is announced between Gordon, son of the late Mr and Mrs Jack, of Netherlee, Glasgow, and Jan, daughter of Mr and Mrs Randles, of Bagshot, Surrey.

Dr R. M. Matheson and Miss H. M. Dickenson
The engagement is announced between Roderick, son of Mr and Mrs R. Matheson, Well Manor, Long Sutton, Hampshire, and Hilary, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. N. Dickenson, Leigh Road, Southampton.

Mr S. M. Milliken and Miss M. A. Nairn
The engagement is announced between Seth, son of Mr and Mrs Minot K. Milliken, of 19 East 72nd Street, New York, and Hull's Cove, Maine, United States, and Martha, daughter of Mr R. Frank Nairn, of Castle Carey, Guernsey, and Mrs Mary-Anna Nairn, of Bamboroughs, Petworth, Sussex.

Mr D. Mouat and Miss K. Croxford
The engagement is announced between David, son of Ted and Irene Mouat, of Kenley, Surrey, and Katherine, elder daughter of Alan and Helen Croxford, of Shirley, Surrey.

Dr C. D. Shee and Dr S. J. Bowcock
The engagement is announced between Charles, eldest son of Dr and Mrs James Shee, of Paarl, South Africa, and Stella, daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Bowcock, of Smith House, Endon, Staffordshire.

Mr D. G. Wells and Miss K. A. Simpson
The engagement is announced between Derrick, eldest son of Mr and Mrs P. Wells, of Great Henny, Sudbury, Suffolk, and Katherine, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Simpson, of Earl Stonham, Suffolk.

Marriage

Mr J. G. R. Williams and Mrs C. C. Wyatt
The marriage took place yesterday in London, followed by a service of Blessing in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, of Mr John Williams and Mrs Caroline Wyatt.

Horticulture

Plants attract three gold medals

By Alan Toogood, Horticulture Correspondent

The Royal Horticultural Society's Flower Show in the New Hall, Westminster, combines winter and spring interest. Vying for attention are shrubs and trees for winter stem and flower colour, and daffodils, snowdrops, cyclamen, coloured primroses and other spring flowers. Orchids and camellias also add colour.

James Trehane and Sons, of Hampreston, are featuring a scented camellia, 'Fragrant Pink', best grown under glass where fragrance is strongest. Burnham Nurseries, of Kingsteignton, have the superb blue orchid, *Vanda rothschildiana*.

Three gold medals were awarded for plant exhibits. Annmore Exotics, of Portsmouth, received a gold for tropical foliage plants, including bromeliads, beautifully staged on wood.

Foliage and flowering houseplants were also shown by The House of Rochford, of Broxbourne, and their gold medal exhibit included a striking green and white variegated *Heptapleurum* 'Capello'. The third gold went to Edrom Nurseries, of Coldingham, for hardy primulas, including cultivars of the chalk-blue *P. whitei*.

In the ornamental plant competition, Lord Aberconway and the National Trust, Bodnant, were awarded first prize for a collection of *Magnolia delavayi* (large-leaved species), *Rhododendron mucronulatum* (pink), *Acer palmatum* 'Senkaki' (coral stems), and *Skimmia japonica* (red berries).

Gold medals for paintings went to the Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria, South Africa, for watercolour paintings of African plants; Christine Hart-Davies, of Poole, for watercolours of lichens, mosses and liverworts; Suzanne Lucas, of Bourton, for watercolours of toadstools; and Ann Shelley-Lloyd, of Romford, for oil paintings of orchids.

The committees made the following awards to orchids:

First class certificate to Zygopetalum 'Stonehurst', bronze with violet-purple lip, from Mr D Strauss, of Ardingly.
Awards of merit to Odontioda Honiton Lace 'Burnham' purple marbled white, from Burnham Nurseries, Kingsteignton; Cymbidium 'Ardingly', white, marked crimson, from Mr D. Strauss; Paphiopedilum 'Stonehurst', yellow and white, from Mr D. Strauss.
Awards of merit were given to the following: Narcissus bulbocodium subspecies romieuxii variety mesatlanticus, bright yellow, from Mr Richard Britten, of Chelsworth; [illegible], pale pink bell-shaped flowers, from the Trustees, Chelsea Physic Garden, London; Helleborus purpurascens, 'Dido', green and purple, from Elizabeth Strangman, Hawkhurst; [illegible], purple foliage, from Mr David Chase, Bletchingley; [illegible] flowers, [illegible] L. Tiedeva; [illegible] schomburgkianum, red tubular flowers, from the Director, RHS Garden, Wisley; Hepatica nobilis var. japonica, blue and pink flowers, from the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

The show is open today from 10am to 5pm.

At the society's Annual meeting the new president, Mr Robin Herbert, was introduced. He succeeds Lord Aberconway, president since 1961.

Family pride: Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew Parker Bowles, of The Blues and Royals, outside Buckingham Palace yesterday after the Queen had presented him with the insignia of an officer of the Order of the British Empire. He was accompanied by his wife, Camilla, and children, Thomas and Laura.

Royal Society of British Sculptors

The Royal Society of British Sculptors' Silver Medal for 1983 was awarded to Mr John Ravera for his bronze sculpture, "In Town". The Royal Society of British Sculptors' Otto Beit Medal for 1983 was awarded to Mr John W. Mills for his bronze sculpture, "Curved Neck Grace".

Royal Caledonian Ball

The Royal Caledonian Ball will be held on Monday, May 21, at Grosvenor House, London, W1. Tickets at £22 (light refreshments at midnight) are obtainable from the end of March, from The Secretary, 94 Elms Road, London, SW4 9EW. Telephone: 01-622 6074.

Repton School

Music scholarship examination, 1984. The following awards have been made:
Juniors.
Scholarships: M J Belben, The Cathedral Choir School, Ripon; D Thantrey, Repton Preparatory School.
Exhibition: M E Whitaker, Arnold Lodge, Leamington Spa.
Seniors.
Scholarships: Fiona Bryan, Mickleover School, Derby; Joy Warburton, King Edward VII School, Sheffield.
Exhibitions: Emma Tisdale, The Kingsley School, Leamington Spa; Janet Tortoishell, Thomas Alleyne's High School, Uttoxeter.

Birthdays today

Sir Roderick Barclay, 75; Mr Bruce Forsyth, 56; Miss Patricia Lancaster, 55; Lord Martonmere, 77; Mr William Mathias, 68; Sir John Mills, 76; Mr Noel Murphy, 47; Mr Sean O'Faolain, 84; Mr Tom Okker, 40; Sir John Primrose, 83; Mr Henry Reed, 70; Mr William Slack, 59; Canon J R L Thomas, 76; Mr John Travolta, 30; Mr Warren Tute, 70; Mr Kenneth Williams, 58.

Luncheon

HM Government
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon given at Admiralty House in honour of the Zairean Ambassador.

Dinner

Age Concern England
The honorary officers of Age Concern England entertained Mr Guy Bryan, vice-chairman, and Mrs Bryan at dinner at the Reform Club last night. Among those present were:
Miss Ann Spokes, chairman, Mr David Hobman, director, and Mrs Hobman; Sir Alan and Lady Marre, Professor John Brocklehurst, Professor Olive Stevenson, Mrs Denise Newman, Mr and Mrs Norman Marsh, Mr Laurie Cockburn, Miss Elisabeth Littlejohn, Mrs Sally Greengross, Mr and Mrs Roger Pashley, Mr Geoffrey Denton and Mr and Mrs Gerry Finch.

Service dinner

Royal Army Service Corps and Royal Corps of Transport
The committee and members of the RASC and RCT Officers Luncheon Club entertained Colonel Edward Du Cann, MP, at luncheon yesterday at the Mark Masons' Hall. Brigadier D. N. Lock, chairman of the club, presided.

Falkland Families' Association

The first annual meeting and reunion of the Falklands Families' Association will be held at 4pm on Saturday, April 14, in the Household Cavalry Barracks, Knightsbridge. Members and friends wishing to attend should contact: D Keoghane, 17 Penrose Court, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP2 6NP.

The Leys School

The Governors of The Leys School have received a generous benefaction from the Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation towards the development programme announced last year by the then chairman of governors, the late Sir Arthur Armitage.

The foundation has promised £290,000 for the building of a centre for art, craft, design and technology to be named after Sir Percy Rugg, President of the Appeal Committee. It is hoped that the Percy Rugg Centre will be completed by the summer of 1986.

Memorial services

The Prince of Pless
A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Prince of Pless was held yesterday at St Michael's, Chester Square. The Rev E. G. H. Saunders officiated. The Earl of Erroll read the lesson and Sir Nigel Trench gave an address. Among those present were:
Count Bolko Hochberg, Mrs Amsel Prollius, Countess Ursula Hochberg, Countess Hans Hochberg, Baron and Baroness Michael-Tinsling, Nadine and Benedict Michael-Tinsling, Count and Countess Michael Hochberg, Mary Princess of Pless, Mrs E. E. Minchin.
The Dowager Duchess of Westminster, the Duchess of Beaufort, Diana Duchess of Newcastle, The Duchess of Roxburghe, Sally Duchess of Westminster, Rosemary Marchioness Camden, the Earl and Countess of Dundee, Countess Lloyd George of Dwyfor, the Earl and Countess of Clancarty, the Countess of Erroll, Lord Francis Seymour, Lord Mowbray and Stourton, Lady Teynham, Deirdre Lady Mountevans, Denise Lady Kilmarnock, Lady Killearn.
Lady Anne Seymour, Lady Alexandra Hay, Lady Gileen Mackenzie Weller, Lady Zinnia Judd, the Hon James Stourton, the Hon Mrs Hamilton Black, the Hon Mrs Brigid Westenra, Sir Iain and Lady Moncreiffe of that Ilk, Sir Dudley and Lady Forwood, Sir James Cayzer, Lady Trench, Mr Charles Janson and the Countess of Sutherland, Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart Chant Sempill and Lady Sempill, Mr Michael and Lady Angela Oswald.
Mr and Mrs Macdonald of Clanranald, Miss Kate Macdonald of Clanranald, Captain Drummond of Megginch, Mrs C D T Wynn-Pope, Major Wynn-Pope, Miss R Wynne-Pope, Mr Hugh Cantlie, Mr Charles Cantlie, Mrs Michael Telfer Smollett, Mrs Michael Hicks Beach, Mr and Mrs John Meade, Mrs Alexander Matheson, Mr Peter Wise, Mr and Mrs G McNeill-Moss, Miss A Massingberd Mundy, Mr and Mrs E J W Hulse, Mr Michael Inchbald, Air Vice-Marshal and Mrs John Elton, Mr John Richards, Mrs J A Thwaites.
Colonel Michael Lyle, Mr Billy Hamilton, Mrs Campbell-Davys, Mr and Mrs Michael Dormer, Mrs M B Eyre, Mr Peter Chandler (Turf Club), Miss Margaret Hope, Mrs M Raine, Miss N E Gillespie, Mr and Mrs E R Palmer, Mr Sebastian Palmer, Mme Wisloch-Sokolovic, the Rev T T and Mrs Gibson, Mr Desmond Atkins, Mr R Colley, Mr Norman Hawkins, Mrs Richard Armstrong, Mrs Ista Montagu Douglas Scott, Mr C O Cowper-Coles, Mr S T Kingston, Mrs Philip Booth, Mr Patrick Filmer-Sankey, Mrs Elizabeth Moore.
Mr Gustav Salm, Commander Gerard Buxton, Mrs Gay Johnstone, Mr Hope Nicholson, Mrs E G H Saunders, Miss M Gillespie, Mrs Anthony Garton, Mr and Mrs Charles Parker, Mr Arthur Masters-Baker, Dr M Stocker, Miss Sofia Stainton and Mr Michael Rose-Cormack-Lyons.

Captain G. H. S. Webber
A memorial service for Captain G. H. S. (Jack) Webber was held yesterday at St Peter's, Eaton Square. The Rev J. B. Woodward-Court officiated. Mrs Pat Koechlin-Smythe, president, British Show Jumping Association, read the lesson and Mr Dorian Williams, president, British Horse Society, gave an address. Among those present were:
Mr and Mrs John Webber and Mr and Mrs Michael Webber (sons and daughters-in-law), Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Webber (son), Mrs Robert Lucy (daughter), Mr and Mrs Anthony Webber, Mr Paul Webber, Mr Mark Webber, Mr David Webber, Mr James Webber, Miss Teresa Webber, Miss Sally Webber and Mr and Mrs Christopher Donkin (grandchildren), Miss Dorothea Webber (sister).
Lady Mary Rose Williams, Lady Kathleen Birnie, the Hon Mrs W Allenby, Colonel Sir Harry Llewellyn, General Sir Cecil Blacker (president, British Equestrian Federation) with Major-General J R Reynolds (director-general, also representing New Zealand Horse Show); Colonel P R Drew (chairman, British Show Jumping Association) and Mrs Drew, with Lieutenant-Commander W B Jefferis (secretary-general) and Mrs Jefferis, Mr Fred Broome, Mr George Coe.
Mr and Mrs J Hammerton, Mr R Massarella, Mr and Mrs Peter Robeson and Miss Tinka Taylor; Colonel W S D Lithgow (Pony Club), Mr Barry Pride (British Equestrian Insurance Brokers), Mr P T Fenwick (chairman, British Horse Society) with Colonel N F Grove-White (director) and Miss Jo Bennett (British Horse Society Riding Clubs); Mr Robert Dean (chairman, British Equestrian Promotions) and Mrs Dean with Mr Raymond Brooks-Ward (managing director).
Brigadier John Woodroffe (Indian Cavalry Association), Lieutenant-Colonel M. H. C. Trance (Punjab Frontier Force Association) and Mrs Trance, Brigadier W. Magan (Sam Browne's Cavalry) and Mrs Magan, Colonel F. G. Maxwell (Ratcatcher Club), Lieutenant-Colonel Frank Beale (chairman, Windsor Park Equestrian Club); Mr Michael Clayton (editor, Horse and Hound) with Miss Jane Pontifex; Mr John Cory (Royal Bath and West Show), Mrs Jenny Nolan (South of England Show), Mrs Edward Selwyn, Major Derek Allhusen, Miss Joan Stillwell, Mrs Sue Armytage, Mrs P. Whitehead, Mr Alan Ball, Mr J. Jack, Mr Trevor Banks, Mr And Mrs Geoffrey Hartop, Mr Edward Bunn, Mr and Mrs John Carse, Mrs A. C. Drwey, Mr and Mrs James Weir and Mr and Mrs Michael Heald.

Latest wills

Sir Anton Dolin, of Bayswater, London and Monte-Carlo, the ballet dancer and choreographer, left estate in England and Wales valued at £3,617.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Brown, Mr Ronald Timothy, of Much Wenlock, Shropshire, farmer £452,268
Cripps, Mr Ernest Frederick, of Steyning, West Sussex £335,821
Cubitt, Mr James William Archibald, of Canonbury, London, architect £30,131
Jones, Mr Walter Edgar, of Kinilworth, Warwickshire £451,325
Smith, Mr Herbert Thompson, of Rayne, Essex £481,231
Thomson, Ellen Freda Ross, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent £302,517

Latest appointments

Mr Gerald Rose to be joint registrar for the districts of the Edmonton and Bow County Courts from June 4.

Mr B. E. F. Catlin to be joint County Court Registrar and joint District Registrar of the High Court in the Reading group of courts from May 1.

Christening

The infant son of Mr and Mrs Harold Spencer was christened Robert Adam Julién Edmund by the Rev A. G. Smith at All Saints Church, Eight Ash Green, Essex on Sunday, February 19. The godparents are Mr Jonathan Channon, Mr Nicholas Elcombe and Mrs Clare Plaistowe.

Science report

Companion star to the Sun 'discovered'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Two groups of American astronomers suggest that the Sun has a companion star, Nemesis. It passes regularly across the cloud of comets surrounding the solar system, beyond the outer planets, sending millions of them flying in all directions.

Some reach Earth, destroying much of the life here.

The scientists are trying to identify Nemesis among some of the fainter stars to which little attention had been paid. They also predict its return in about 14 million years.

There would then be a repetition, presumably, of events 65 million years ago, when comets hurled to Earth, caused catastrophic damage, blotting out the Sun, plunging the planet into freezing darkness, and bringing the sudden extinction of dinosaurs and primitive life forms.

The idea differs from that proposed recently which envisaged the comets being scattered as the Sun periodically crosses the plane of the Milky Way. During that crossing dust clouds were said to tug gravitationally at the comets, disrupting their orbits.

Several observations have stimulated studies and theories about comets. One has been a finding that mass extinctions of marine animals and plants have tended to occur every 26 million years and another has been an analysis of the frequency with which objects have left craters on the Earth.

The coincidence of these events was noted independently by Dr Michael Rampino and Dr R. B. Stothers, of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's planetary sciences unit and Dr Walter Alvarez and Dr Richard Muller, of the University of California at Berkeley.

Both groups calculated that this could be explained by a companion star to the Sun. But Nemesis would be only a tenth of the Sun's mass and would be circling it every 28 million years. The orbit is lopsided and only briefly does the star come as close as 20,000 to 30,000 astronomical units (one unit equals the Earth-Sun distance of 93 million miles) of the Sun.

However, that would be close enough to disrupt the area of the sky containing the Oort cloud, named after the astronomer who found it, in which thousands of millions of comets are slowly circling the solar system.

Only rarely is one dislodged from its place in the Oort cloud and sent on a new orbit deep across the solar system, occasionally to be seen from Earth, such as Halley's comet.

OBITUARY

MIKHAIL SHOLOKHOV

Author of 'The Quiet Don'

Mikhail Sholokhov, who died in Rostov-on-Don on February 20, aged 78, had an unparalleled reputation among Soviet writers for his authorship of the great novel of Cossack life during the Civil War, *Tikhiy Don* translated and known in the English-speaking world in two parts, *And Quiet Flows the Don*, and its sequel, *The Don Flows Home to the Sea*. But, towards the end of his life Sholokhov's reputation was clouded by increasingly bitter and searching controversy.

His personal behaviour was objectionable; having written a novel which was apparently highly sympathetic to the Cossack opponents of Bolshevism he was able to embrace an aggressive doctrinal orthodoxy which enabled him to join in the persecution of writers such as Pasternak, who had fallen foul of Socialist-Realist tenets and thus of the party. This rendered him odious to a younger generation of Soviet writers and embarrassed his admirers outside the Soviet Union.

But this did not exceed the unease which began to spread from the scepticism increasingly aired, especially outside the Soviet Union, about his authorship of *Tikhiy Don* itself. The case against Sholokhov had first emerged as early as 1929 when the Russian Association of Proletarian Writers felt itself bound formally to investigate (and rebut) rumours that the callow short-story writer Sholokhov, 12 years of age at the time of the Revolution, could never have produced a work of such maturity about events he could not have witnessed.

These rumours emerged in more concrete form in 1974 when Alexander Solzhenitsyn adduced published evidence from a, by then, dead, and anonymous Russian scholar that Sholokhov had merely taken over the diaries of a White Guard officer F. D. Kryukov who had been killed in the Civil War. Stylistic anomalies between the earlier and later parts of the novel, plus his manifest failure to produce anything of like merit after *Tikhiy Don* were all used in the argument against Sholokhov and do continue to cast a shadow over an estimate of the man.

But at the end of the day the truth is that no hard, external evidence emerged to substantiate the case against him and it is not impossible to imagine that Sholokhov had seen, read and digested the diaries of another man, making their contents his own and recreating them much as, say, Shakespeare did with North's *Plutarch*, without necessarily being a plagiarist and a charlatan.

Mikhail Alexandrovich Sholokhov was born in 1905 in the Donets region of Russia. His father was an immigrant from Ryazan. Until he was 13 Sholokhov studied in various secondary schools, and during the period of the Civil War he continued to live in the Don area.

From 1920 to 1922 he was unemployed and was often in trouble with the law because of his connexions with gangs in his native region. In 1923, he went to Moscow and worked as an unskilled labourer, stonemason, stevedore and clerk. At this time he was contributing articles to various journals and in particular to young Communist newspapers.

His first collection of stories, mostly based on Cossack life, appeared in 1925. Soon after, he returned from Moscow to his native Don to begin work on *The Quiet Don*, the first part of which was published in 1928, and hailed by many Soviet writers as a great triumph of Soviet literature.

It was widely translated. Further instalments followed – the second volume in 1929, third in 1931 and fourth and last in 1940.

One of the great merits of the novel is its vigorous and racy Russian, and the earthy and full-blooded love story of Grigory and Axinia, with its tragic ending, will rank as one of the very few unforgettable love stories in Soviet literature, usually so reserved and anaemic when it comes to sex. Its powerful subconscious sympathies, too, seem to be with the Cossacks and their traditional customs upset by the Revolution.

Sholokhov's second novel, *Virgin Soil Upturned*, 1932-33, was on an equally ambitious scale. The subject was another acute conflict of the revolutionary period, which tore his native Don region asunder as a result of the Soviet policy of forcible collectivization. Its appearance coincided with the literary revolution in the Soviet Union and the adoption of so-called "Socialist Realism", and during the early discussions about the meaning of this new art method, it was often held up as an outstanding example of it.

In the Second World War Sholokhov, like most Soviet writers made many visits to the front; he was a regular contributor to *Pravda*, and considerable publicity was given to his short war story, *The Science of Hate*, a psychological study on the subject of patriotism and hatred for the enemy.

In 1942 he embarked on a large-scale war novel, *They Fought for their Country*: several chapters of which were published in *Pravda*, *Red Star* and *Komsomolskaya Pravda*; some indication of the importance attached to it. This novel deals with the early and most difficult part of the war, the days of retreat. But Sholokhov never recaptured the vivid quality of his earlier work.

Although Sholokhov was rarely seen in Moscow or active in the Writers' Union, preferring to write, hunt and fish in his native village on the Don, he had always been keenly interested in local affairs. In 1936 he was elected to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR as a deputy for his native Veshenskaya region. He was a member of his regional All Union Communist Party and a member of its district committee.

Sholokhov's official recognition was reflected in numerous Orders of Lenin, a First Class Stalin Prize, and the Order of Patriotic War, First Degree, for his journalistic work during the war years. He was also a member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, and a Hero of Socialist Labour.

Sholokhov was very far from popular with the vast majority of his Soviet fellow writers. He went out of his way on numerous occasions to denounce, in his rather swaggering manner, the weaknesses of Soviet literature.

One of his chief arguments against Soviet writers was that practically all of them were living in Moscow or Leningrad and that their knowledge of the countryside was negligible. Even if some of them went occasionally on "creative trips" to unfamiliar parts of the Soviet Union, they very soon felt "an irresistible urge to return to their well-heated Moscow wc's", as he once put it with typical pungency.

At the same time Sholokhov frequently liked to stress that he was "communist first and writer only second", and he was intolerant towards any departures from "socialist realism". Often he tended to be rude and boorish. His boorishness could frequently be attributed to drink; for he was a heavy drinker.

He played an unenviable role in Pasternak's refusal to accept the Nobel Prize, and when several years later in 1965 he was himself awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, he made, in Stockholm, one of his most ill-mannered speeches, ridiculing the two earlier Russian Nobel Prize winners – Ivan Bunin who, he declared, was an anti-Soviet emigré, and Boris Pasternak who also was an emigré – an "internal emigré". His Swedish hosts were painfully shocked.

MISS LUCY DUFF GRANT

Miss Lucy Duff Grant, OBE, who died on January 27, was a former Matron of Manchester Royal Infirmary, and had been a practising nurse for over 50 years.

She began her training at the Nightingale School at St Thomas's Hospital in 1916, and qualified as a nurse tutor in 1922. In 1929 she was appointed Lady Superintendent of Nurses at Manchester Royal Infirmary, a title which was later changed to Matron, and she remained there until 1954.

She was concerned not only about the practice of nursing but also about the nursing profession. She became a member of the Royal College of Nursing on qualifying as a nurse in 1919, served on its council for many years and was elected President in 1950.

She was also President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from 1952 to 1957, and worked towards its amalgamation with the Royal College in 1963.

MR H. L. H. H. GREEN

Mr H. L. H. H. Green, who died on February 16 at the age of 84, was a Fellow of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and a member of staff of the Cambridge University Anatomy Department.

Much of his investigative work lay in the field of comparative anatomy and he had a particular interest in the evolution of teeth. His major contribution in this field was the definitive monograph on the development of the teeth and jaws of *Ornithorhynchus*, the duck billed platypus, while his wide knowledge of vertebrate structure made him an admirable editor, of Hans Gadow's posthumous work on the vertebral column.

The provinces of Guangdong and Fujian



The new Chiia: tower blocks over the commercial centre of the special economic zone at Shenzhen, while, in the foreground, lories stream acrohe border from Hongkong. Shenzhen is the biggest of China's four SEZs, which are designe to attract foreiapital and technology. So far, most of the investment has come from Hongkong.

China's new frontier

The southern provinces of Guangdong and Fujian are at the front of the drive by China to attract foreign investment as it struggles to modernize its economy after the ravages of the Cultural Revolution. Guangdong borders the British colony of Hongkong and the Portuguese-administered territory of Macau, and Fujian has for long had links with South-east Asia. The two contain all four of China's special economic zones and the waters off Guandong have become a magnet for international oil companies. David Bonavia sets the scene.



Pushing through the mud: boys moving goods by bicycle near Xiamen in Fujian province.

Guangdong and Fujian are two of China's most independent provinces, and two of the richest in natural resources. Guangdong is famed as the home of revolutionaries, while Fujian has a seaward orientation with kinship and other links to the Chinese of South-east Asia.

With its abundant rice, pork, vegetables and sugar cane, and its busy light industries, Guangdong runs a huge export trade with Hongkong and Macau, thus earning large sums in foreign currency, both for its own use and for that of the central treasury in Peking.

Fujian is rich mainly in rice, fish, timber and fruit. Much of the fruit is canned for export and receives stiff competition from Taiwan on foreign markets.

The Fujianese and other Chinese joke that the Cantonese "will eat anything with four legs except a table, anything that flies except an aeroplane, and anything that swims except a submarine." Certainly the Cantonese spare no form of wild life, including snake, civet cat, owl, pangolin and salamander.

The Fujianese are more conservative in their tastes, preferring seafoods to fresh water fish and venturing little into their province's steep mountains in search of game.

Caught between the mountains and the sea, the Fujianese speak the most difficult dialects of Chinese, many of them mutually incomprehensible. The Cantonese, with one main dialect and many sub-dialects, are closer in their speech to the ancient Chinese and cannot be understood by northerners.

Historically the Fujianese have settled in South-east Asia – especially Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia – while the Cantonese have moved to Indochina and farther afield to North America, Britain and Australia.

Indochina, however, has been almost bereft of ethnic Chinese inhabitants since Vietnam expelled then *en masse* in 1978. Some 270,000 refugees from Indochina are spread out across the southern Chinese provinces of Guangdong, Yunnan, Guangxi and Fujian. Guangdong and Fujian are the two provinces singled out for the experiment with special economic zones, which are basically centres of processing and assembly work for light industrial consumer goods, taking advantage of low labour costs in China.

The proximity of Hongkong and Macau has meant the absorption of not only foreign capital, but also – more slowly – some modern concepts of management and marketing. It has also led to the import of what the authorities disparagingly call "spiritual pollution" – popular culture from Hongkong, Taiwan and the West.

Guangdong has long been the sponge through which Western ideas and techniques – as well as the new fruits and vegetables discovered in America four centuries ago and now very important to Chinese agriculture – have been absorbed. Jesuit missionaries made it their base in the sixteenth century, while Western merchants traded outside the walls of Canton from the late seventeenth century onwards.

Guangdong was also the first place in China to learn the frightening power of the British Navy and the ability of its gunners to extract trade concessions and eventually territory from the provincial viceroy and the Imperial Court.

Many Chinese revolutionaries took refuge in Hongkong from persecution in China, including such dissimilar figures as Sun Yat-sen and Chou En-lai. And it was the armies of Guangdong that crowned with success Chiang Kai-shek's expedition against the northern warlords and reunification of the country in 1928.

Fujian lies somewhat to the edge of the Chinese world, once braving pirates to send emigrants across the strait of Taiwan, where Fujianese are the biggest social group. Portugal traded at Quanzhou but paid more attention to Macau.

Until Britain and France forced open the "treaty ports" in the mid-nineteenth century, Fujian's famous teas went by the riverine route for sale at Canton. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries Spanish monks from the Philippines made some converts in Fujian, but Christianity was later persecuted in the province and a revival had to await the opening of the ports for trade.

The big agricultural reform which has swept China's countryside in the past few years is showing obvious results in both provinces. Peasants are now allowed to decide for themselves how much they will grow and at what prices they will sell their crops, on condition that they fulfil a contract to deliver a certain amount annually to the state. Though the contract system is less easily applied in fishing, the coastal markets are brisk and many people are building new houses.

Nonetheless life is still hard and basic for most of the population, especially in the more remote rural areas. Illegal immigration into Hongkong has been greatly reduced, but only because of a tougher attitude on the part of the British. The pressures for emigration are still there. The people of southern China are well aware of the higher living standards in Hongkong and the outside world, but they are also beginning to enjoy more consumer goods such as refrigerators and washing-machines.

The oIy city in China where yu can call a taxi

The economic core o Guangdong province is the Pe l River delta, which has Cant as its regional centre but also ntains Hongkong, Macau and wo of the three Special Ec omic Zones. Outside the delt egion – with the exception f the Zhaoqing region, the ec omic outlet for Guangxi pr ince, and the small Han Rive elta, of which Shantou (Swat) is the regional centre – the province is poor and mou in-ous with inadequate com uni-cations.

The large island of H an, only slightly smaller an Taiwan, is administrativel art of Guangdong. It is ill relatively underdeveloped al-tho its potential as China's onlyear-round source of trop products is substantial. Alscrt of Guangdong are the freqly disputed island grou(Xisha, Nansha) extending o into the resource-rich Sout hina Sea.

Tlcurrent population of Guarong is more than 60 milli(more than 65 million if Hongng and Macau are includ), a figure exceeded only Sichuan, Henan and Shanog. Its population approxiites to that of Jiangsu provie which, closely integrateo ith the Shanghai economic egion, has much in comm with Guangdong's econoic core, itself strongly influenced by Hongkong.

Guangdong has played a significant innovative role in the history of modern China. Since 1978 it has been granted a degree of autonomy to formulate economic policy. A general relaxation in policy prescriptions, especially in the rural sector, has had some far-reaching effects, some of which have been held up for national emulation.

The province is one of China's great agricultural regions. It ranks sixth in terms of the value of total agricultural production. It produces almost half of China's sugar cane, 11 per cent of its rice output and is the largest producer of both fish and forest products.

Since 1979 a variety of new approaches to stimulate the rural economy has been adopted in China. The purchasing prices of farm commodities have been increased to encourage peasants to diversify operations. By 1982 most production teams in Guangdong had adopted so-called "production responsibility systems" in which individual peasant households have a greater degree of independence to make certain production decisions.

The production responsibility system is credited with a broad increase in farm production, which grew by 16 per cent in 1982 and is likely to have exceeded that figure in 1983. Grain, sugar-cane, peanuts, fruit and tea all broke output records. The increase in fish production, especially fresh-water fish, has been especially marked. Only hemp and the traditionally significant production of silk cocoons declined in 1982 and 1983.

There is substantial local variation throughout Guangdong and not all areas have responded in identical ways to the new opportunities. The Pearl River delta region is most advantageously located and diversity in the rural economy has increased significantly over the past four years.

However, the most remarkable change in the Pearl River delta region is the growth of local industry. The restrictions which were imposed on the nature and scale of local industries before 1978 have been removed and have resulted in the rapid growth of commune and brigade enterprises. Many are operating in cooperation with business interests in Hongkong and Macau or use the advantages of location (and the possession of foreign exchange) to invest in efficient, modern (and often foreign) plant to serve aspects of Chinese domestic industry. A burgeoning local industry and a solid agricultural base has given the peasants of the delta region the highest per capita rural incomes in China.

Guangdong has little heavy industry but is an important light-industry centre. Only Shanghai produces more sewing machines than Guangdong and it leads the nation in the production of electric fans. It is also an important producer of bicycles, refined aluminium products and hand-tractors. Its food-processing industry is large, refined sugar (40 per cent of China's total) being the most significant. Sharp increases in the production of domestic appliances (refrigerators and washing machines), tape-recorders and cameras have been recorded over the past two years.

The provincial capital, Canton, is China's most distinctive regional centre, for it is the most open to foreign influences. This is a reflection of an increasing integration with affluent (and capitalist) Hongkong and Macau. Two through express trains run between Hongkong and Canton daily in addition to an air service and a variety of sea routes. The road network, although still inadequate, is improving. The most important new road links Hongkong and Canton, reducing the journey to about three hours.

GUANGDONG FACTS

Area: 210,000 sq km
Population: 60 million
Capital: Guangzhou (Canton)
Economy: rice, sugar cane, pork, vegetables, fish, timber, light industry, tourism.

The effect of this integration is startling. Canton has been transformed. Restaurants and teahouses are packed, and a pattern of consumption that owes more to Hongkong than to Peking predominates. Canton is the only city in China where taxis can be hailed on the street and overseas telephone calls dialled directly.

Ninety per cent of China's tourists – there were eight million in 1982 – are "compatriots", the great majority from Hongkong. Most stay within the bounds of the province and tourist revenue is an estimated £500m. Hongkong visitors entertain lavishly and present expensive gifts to their kinsmen. They provide an air of affluence to the south which excites the interest of much of the rest of the country.

Graham Johnson

The author is associate professor of sociology in the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

Sharing a joke over the vegetables at a kerbside market in Shenzhen, the centre of China's biggest special economic zone.

Turning a sweet face to Taiwan

"Catch up with Guangdong" seems to be the watchword of Fujian province, which is among the most isolated in China by land, but highly accessible by sea. Arable land and main concentrations of population are located in the long coastal strip, where the staple foods are rice and fish.

Geography has shaped both the livelihood and the outlook of the Fujian people. They are proud and clannish, but also hospitable and humourous.

With their seaward orientation, the Fujianese have historically settled in Taiwan, South-east Asia and the West. The number of overseas kin is put at some six million, not including those in Taiwan. A steady flow of remittances to relatives brings in healthy foreign currency earnings and flocks of visitors from Hongkong and elsewhere at the Chinese New Year.

Rich in resources, especially seafood and timber, the province nonetheless lags behind the much bigger Guangdong, which enjoys a fertile hinterland and has a population of more than 60 million (as against Fujian's 26 million).

Per capita incomes are lower than in Guangdong, especially in the interior, but some of the fishing communes are exceedingly prosperous. There is much new building in and around Fuzhou, the provincial capital, making use of local granite.

There is not even a railway from Canton to Fuzhou, though a 20-hour motor coach service has been inaugurated. Passenger sailings operate between Hongkong and Xiamen (Amoy) and Mawei, the port of Fuzhou on the Min River. And there are direct flights by Trident to Canton, Shanghai, Peking and Hongkong.

FUJIAN FACTS

Area: 120,000 sq km
Population: 26 million
Capital: Fuzhou
Economy: rice, fish, fruit, timber.

The reason for the sudden rush to develop Fujian with foreign investment as well as government subsidies is that until the death of Mao Tse-tung in 1976, Fujian was considered a "frontline" province because it faces Taiwan, where the Kuomintang (Nationalists) maintain large and modern armed forces.

The days of punishing artillery duels between Fujian and the offshore islands of Jinmen (Quemoy) and Mazu (Matsu) are over, and Taiwan fishermen in distress are welcomed at special reception centres. There is much smuggling across the strait.

Since 1977 the central government has removed the "frontline" tag in accordance with its sweetly reasonable overtures to Taiwan for peaceful reunification. Peking now subsidizes the development of Fujian to the tune of about 100m renminbi (£36m) annually.

Foreign investment has been slower coming to Fujian than to Guangdong. Japan's Hitachi is assembling electronic goods with local labour and there is a special economic zone at Amoy, concentrating on export processing.

Incomes vary greatly. The less well-off peasants or fishermen might earn less than £100 a year in cash, and have a mainly subsistence economy.

However, the brigade-leader at a fishing village near Fuzhou put his family's joint income – with four able-bodied workers – at the equivalent of about £6,000 a year (a huge sum in China).

The sea and estuaries yield abundant foodstuffs – fish, oysters, prawns, crab and seaweed – at rock-bottom prices. There is also a rich harvest of fruit, especially lychees, logans, pineapples, bananas and tangerines. Both the seafood and the fruit are canned or otherwise preserved for export.

In the countryside, old customs die hard. Some young people have been rebuked for sending out the traditional invitations to their wedding banquets, at which every guest makes a contribution in cash. There is a continuing campaign aganst fortune-telling and gambling and other "federal remnants".

Some 20,000 ethnic Chinese refugees from Vietnam, expelled in 1978, have been resettled in Fujian, a small number compared with those now living in Guangdong, including Hainan Island, and in Guangxi and Yunnan.

Restitution is still being made to Overseas Chinese families, mainly from Indonesia, who opted to return to China when race relations in that country deteriorated in 1960. During the Cultural Revolution many of them were persecuted or evicted because of jealousy over the higher living standards they enjoyed, and suspicions about their loyalty.

Now that the returned Overseas Chinese have had their privileges restored they can buy high-quality goods with remittances from their relatives abroad and are given priority in employment, health and education.

Tourism is being actively developed. Fuzhou itself is a bland modern city, though its streets are made more pleasant by the feathery pines, dwarf mangoes and other indigenous trees planted at the kerb. The main attractions in the province are Xiamen, the picturesque former treaty port, and Quanzhou, with its cultural and artistic relics.

David Bonavia

The Western way of making mone

Foreign visitors to Hongkong flock across the border into the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone to marvel at China's proud experiment in blending socialist ideology with capitalist ways of making money. Previously, foreigners could only peep at the slumbering giant from a hilltop inside Hongkong. Today, they can walk through bedrooms of model homes in Shenzhen on a one-day tour.

To visitors, Shenzhen represents the Chinese economy's new look. To the planners in Peking, it is not only a new way of importing foreign capital, technology and management techniques, but also a success that must be maintained so as to demonstrate the leadership's sincerity in adopting a liberal, long-term open-door policy. To workers in Shenzhen, the town means higher wages, easier access to imported goods, Hongkong-style entertainment, longer working hours and greater output.

There are three special economic zones (SEZs) in the southern province of Guangdong – Shenzhen, Shantou and Zhuhai, the last bordering the Portugese enclave of Macau. A fourth one is Xiamen on the east coast of Fujian province across the strait from Taiwan.

SEZs are designed to accommodate export industries, a vital means of earning hard currency. Foreign companies are invited to enter into various types of joint-venture – including capital sharing, processing and assembly, and compensation trade – with Chinese state-owned enterprises. Shenzhen SEZ is well ahead of the others and boasts some $HK 12,300m (about £1,113m) in pledged foreign investment, according to the Shenzhen SEZ development company.

However, only a small percentage of the pledged investment is realized: of the $HK 10,900m promised up to June 1983, only $HK 2,200m had become actual investment.

"The zone officials are only too eager to cooperate with foreign businessmen, but they don't know the rules of the game", a Shenzhen-based foreign banker said. "The Chinese sometimes don't even ask for the balance sheet of their partner's firm before they sign a contract."

Shenzhen's embryonic capitalist economy is affected by the ups and downs of the Hongkon economy, which is not su prising as Hongkong business men are behind an estimated 8 per cent of foreign investment the zone. When Hongkong w riding on the crest of a proper boom, Shenzhen's considerab cheaper land attracted ma manufacturers from across t border. They were soon follow by property developers w projects for holiday reso hotels, blocks of flats a commercial complexes.

Exploration of Pearl River basin

When Hongkong's prope y bubble burst in 1982 and e land cost difference nea y vanished, Hongkong manufa turers who needed to expa d production looked for existi g Shenzhen factories, where th y could place orders witho t making any long-term inve tment. As the flow of capital in o Shenzhen slows down, zo e authorities may be rethinki g the initial strategy of industria development; indeed, they hav already announced a number o large-scale oil-related projects.

This is because Shenzhen at the mouth of the Pearl Rive, in whose basin oil and g s exploration is under w y. Chiwan, in Shenzhen's Shek u district, has been designated as a major support base or offshore drilling in the So th China Sea. Shekou dist ct, though a part of Shenzhen SEZ, is separately managed by China Merchants Steam Navigation, the Hongkong arm of the Chinese Ministry of Comm nications.

To attract substantial investment in industry, the quality of workers must first be upgraded, investors observed. A rage factory worker, at 800-1,000 a month, cos f as much as his cou t in Hongkong but his ctivity is much lower.

Zone officials s tell visiting businessme Shenzhen has much t n from Hongkong, but the hing the SEZ has not ated is Hongkong's ente g spirit. "They just ca out the required operat ut never think about w improve things", a Ho g investor said.

Foreign b smen in Shenzhen, so of whom commute daily Hongkong, complain bitte the complications of cr the border. The four or checkpoints inside the Sh n border take more than utes to pass. Making a hone call to Hongkong longer. Immigration p ures will be simplified the completion of a secon rder which will seal off the from the rest of China, en g tighter control over the k of mainlanders into the S

Curre enzhen SEZ plans call for ctories, producing electron petrochemicals, building erials and precision machin a deep-water harbour an international airport be built with foreign assista

The er SEZs have less ambit plans and their cauti ay benefit them in the long- , according to China trade ecialists. Due to difficulty ccess, Zhuhai, Shantou and men have been slow to attr foreign investment, but tra rt links are gradually bei stablished.

HINA'S SPECIAL ONOMIC ZONES

I angdong: Shenzhen, Z hai, Shantou
I ujian: Xiamen
ged foreign investment:
nzhen – $HK10, 00m, of ch $HK2,200 re lized by June
uhai – $US1, 30m, of hich $US21m alized by st September
iamen – $US 0m by last October

Xiamen's international airport, built wit loans from the Arab Develoment Fund of Kuwait, was completed late last year and has direct flights to Hongkong, Shanghai, Peking and Canton. A helicopter service between Zhuhai and Canton was recentl inaugurated. Shantou, the lest developed of the SEZs, hs a freight and passenger shipping service, a joint-venture with a Thai company.

The reatively small size of Xiamen, Shantou and Zhuhai SEZs – which together amount to less than 7 per cent of Shenzhen SEZ's area – makes for bette planning and management. Zhuhai, for example, focuses on exploiting its scenic landscape; its location on the west bank of the Pearl River makes it a convenient holiday spot for expatriate oilmen. By September 1983, Zhuhai officials were claiming pledged foreign investment of $US 1,130m (about £800m), some $US 21m of which had been spent, mainly in tourism and its offshoot industries. Last year, Zhuhai SEZ was extended to embrace Shijingshan, a major tourist attraction.

Chinese official reports of Xiamen's development are confined to the number of business visitors to the zone and the preferential tax treatment offered to foreign investors. It was reported in October 1983 that total pledged investment amounted to $US 150m, but no information is available on actual investment. Major projects in Xiamen SEZ are China's third Coca-Cola bottling plant, a tile factory capitalized at $US 4.35m and financed by a Singapore Chinese, and the joint-manufacture of a new cigarette brand with R. J. Reynolds Tobacco of the United States.

Teresa Ma

The author is a specialist writer on Hongkong for the Far Eastern Economic Review.

USSR · MONGOLIA · CHINA · INDIA · HUNAN · JIANGXI · ZHEJIANG · FUJIAN · GUANGDONG · GUANGXI · TAIWAN · Futun River · Jin River · Nanping · Sanming · Min River · FUZHOU · Mazu · Jinlong River · Quanzhou · Zhanghou · Jinmen · Xiamen SEZ · Shantou SEZ · Shaoguan · Mei River · Dong River · Xi River · GUANGZHOU (Canton) · Zhaoqing · Foshan · Jiangmen · Huizhou · Shenzhen SEZ · Hongkong · Zhuhai SEZ · Macau · Maoming · Zhanjiang · Haikou · Qinglan · Basuo · HAINAN IS. · Huangliu · Sanya · SOUTH CHINA SEA

Roads · Railways · 100 miles

Offshore oilfields major interest licence holders: Atlantic Richfield · Pennzoil · Idemitsu · Sun · Total · Shell/Esso · BP · Occidental · Japanese Nat Oil Corp · Texaco · Phillips

Source: Wood, Mackenzie & Co. · David Hart

Rushing into tourism on treasure island

South China's "Treasure Island", Hainan, is under-going rapid and even headlong development to ensure that its tropical products and tourist potential bring it into the front rank of foreign exchange earners over the next decade or so.

Though not strictly speaking in the tropical zone, Hainan is the only part of China which produces coffee, rubber and numerous other commodities useful in the domestic economy as well as the export market. Last May Mr Liang Lingguang, Governor of Guangdong province, to which the big island belongs, promised an annual 10 per cent increase in provincial subsidies on top of an outright grant of about £6m.

Transport facilities are badly in need of development. Extension work is in progress at Haikou, the capital, Basuo and Qinglan and a new port is being built at Sanya in the far south, which is a submarine base. There are to be steamer services to Hongkong and Canton.

CAAC, the national airline, is to operate direct flights from Hongkong and Canton to Haikou and Sanya, and a microwave communications link is in the pipeline.

It is hoped to raise open-cut coal mining to more than 500,000 tonnes in the next three years and to build a coal-fired 50,000 kilowatt power plant at Kengkou.

There are also plans to triple annual dry rubber production to between 450,000 and 500,000 tonnes by the end of the century. Hainan accounted for nearly 70 per cent of China's rubber output in 1983.

To prevent further despoliation of natural resources and the environment, tree-felling at some locations has been banned and Canton will pay for afforestation work instead. More than 60,000 acres of mudflats and 160,000 acres of freshwater area will be used for fish-farming.

Somewhat controversial is the provincial government's plan to develop Hainan for tourism. The government is pinning hopes on "winter swimmers" coming from Hongkong – but Hongkong has its own beaches, and Cantonese people rarely swim in winter, even in the relatively mild climate of South China.

Tourist facilities so far are almost non-existent and the coastal towns are poor and dirty. However, it was Mr Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the Chinese Communist party, who dubbed Hainan "Treasure Island" when he visited it last year, so work will go ahead.

Meanwhile the party is taking a long, hard look at the population problem. Having significant ethnic minority groups – Miao and Li, whose sexual customs are somewhat picturesque – the authorities must tread carefully and follow the policy of being more lenient to minorities in matters of birth control than the Han (ethnic Chinese).

However, it is now strongly recommended to the Miao and Li that they should conform to the national guideline of one child, but they will not be penalized, as Han people are if they have two. Three, however, is "out". One or both of the parents must undergo contraceptive surgery or insertion of the ring.

Stripped of political powers

To improve Hainan's foreign trade, the island is being given more autonomy in its handling of import-export deals. Promising export crops are pineapple, cashew nuts, tea, medicinal herbs, lemon-grass and melons. Customs in Haikou have been instructed to cause the least possible impediment to import of machinery and equipment needed for the island's development. The People's Liberation Army is playing a significant role in engineering and site-preparation, as well as planting of rubber and coconut trees, the latter on the streets of Sanya.

The 34,200 square kilometre island, with its population of some 5.7 million, is also to have more industry. Emphasis will initially be placed on machine-building, though processing and canning of agricultural products will be of greater importance for a long time to come.

Foreign businessmen and delegations have been visiting Hainan to survey the prospects for investment and joint ventures. Contracts have been signed for a cement factory, a piggery, a solar-energy plant, and a yard for building fishing vessels.

David Bonavia

High hopes for offshore oil

Initial disappointment at the abandonment of BP's first exploration well in the South China Sea has now evaporated. The outcome has been put into perspective and the oil industry and those who watch its activities closely still believe that the area has enormous potential. The BP drill ship has moved on to another block with different geological formations and has already started drilling there. Earlier this month, Esso China, the operator for a joint venture between Esso and Shell, began drilling in the western part of the Pearl River basin.

For China and the oil companies the importance of the South China Sea cannot be overestimated. It has been described as possibly another North Sea or as the next Alaska. It is the one remaining area in the world where the potential for a really important oil field exists.

That BP did not strike oil at the first attempt does not mean that the seismic surveys on the area were wrong. Oil traces were found where the surveys said they would be, but not in commercially viable quantities. The first drilling in the North Sea followed the same pattern. Moreover, BP's five drilling concessions in the South China Sea cover massive areas compared with the North Sea licence blocks.

The two BP wells and those which will follow when other groups move their rigs into the area are already affecting the local economy. Shore bases are being developed and money from the Western companies is flowing into that part of China via the pockets of the Chinese drill crews and through the government.

The Chinese workers being trained and employed by BP and its competitors are paid by the companies at the going world rate for drilling crews, but in fact receive only the national average wage. The rest of their earnings goes to the government. This is done so that the Chinese workers do not feel inferior in earning power to the Westerners they work alongside, while at the same time not feeling superior to their countryman ashore employed in agriculture or more traditional industries.

Royalties and the X factor

When oil is found, the Chinese government will start to take a considerable slice of the revenue. Too big a slice, say some companies that have not bothered to bid for licences. But those companies that have already won licences regard the potential rewards as so great as to be worth the high taxation level.

Initially, China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC), the national oil company, has the option to take up a 51 per cent stake in any development project. In addition, there are royalties, taxes and the so-called "X" factor, namely, the share of the oil, after taxes, which goes to the oil company – an important element in the bidding process under which blocks have been allocated. Contract terms vary between companies and between blocks, and even vary with different production levels.

It is expected that food supplies and services for the offshore sector, stand-by tugs and firefighting ships, will all come from Chinese companies.

The potential for oil-related exports to China will be limited to high-technology and highly specialized drilling equipment. In this area, Britain stands to gain a great deal, especially as much of the technology to be used has been developed in the North Sea and will be available through the British government's Offshore Supplies Office at the Department of Energy.

However, even in this area the Chinese are expected to drive a tough bargain, negotiating production licence deals rather than buying hardware from Britain and wherever possible seeking to pay in compensation agreement deals or perhaps in oil, rather than in hard cash. Using Chinese oil to pay for British goods would bring business to the oil trading department of British oil companies, adding to Britain's invisible earnings.

Britain is likely to reap a quicker financial benefit from the Chinese decision to build a 1,800 megawatt nuclear power station at Daya Bay in Guangdong. The project, worth £3,200m, is a joint development between Hongkong and Chinese interests, and already plans for a second station of similar capacity are under consideration.

The scheme has run into environmental objections because of its proximity to Hongkong, but it is likely that it will be producing its first electricity in 1989, and work on the second phase could have already started by then.

Originally it was planned to complete the power station in 1991 – a more realistic target, according to engineers who have been involved in evaluating the scheme – and to sell 70 per cent of its output to Hongkong. The Hongkong interest, led by China Light and Power, one of the largest of the colony's utility companies, has not yet been invited to take part in the second stage of the project.

Britain hopes that GEC will win the turbine and generating plant for the station, with the contract for the two 900 megawatt reactors going to Framatome of France.

Britain is likely to win a large share of the "invisible" earnings from the project. British merchant bankers are advising on the financial packages required by the contractors bidding for the project and on the overall financial package.

David Young
Energy Correspondent

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Assoc Energy 5p Ord (158a)	73
BP 25p Ord (435*)	435
CML Microsystems (130*a)	190−1
Cable & Wireless 50p Ord (275*) Fully Paid	340+5
Dataserv Inc Com Stk $0.05	76
Gibbs Mew 25p Ord (240a)	200
Grosvenor Square 10p Ord (91a)	98
Hexura 10p Ord (95)	94
Kent J. 5p Ord (35a)	42
Moray Firth Maltings 50p Ord (195a)	224
Morgan Communications 5p Ord (60a)	76+3
Radio Clyde 25p Ord NV (60a)	70
Sangers Photographics 10p Ord (23a)	26½
Synterials 10p Ord (100a)	85
Tyne Tees 100p "A" NV (135a)	160
Unibond 25p Ord (105a)	109
Vahn Pollen Int 5p Ord (110a)	195+20
Welpac 10p Ord (10a)	16½
XYLLYX 10p Ord (50a)	46−2

Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities, * by tender.

Trident is not for sale, says new chief Hanson

Lord Hanson, yesterday resumed the chairmanship of Trident Television and told shareholders there was no "for sale" over the company.

Two months ago, the £55m merger between Trident and its rival casino group Pleasurama was blocked by the Monopolies Commission. Since then, the company has been tipped as a takeover favourite.

Lord Hanson, who stood down as chairman of the company in the mid Seventies to build up Hanson Trust, said: "We will always talk to people who express an interest in the company. But there is nothing at this stage. There is no "for sale" sign hanging over Trident. We are anxious to have a period of calm after the many changes of the past three years."

Trident made a £6m trading profit last year of which £5.4m came from its gaming activities. The group operates the Clermont Club, the Victoria Club, the Connoisseur Casino and the Village Club in London.


Lord Hanson: period of calm is required

The group also holds 30 per cent of Yorkshire Television and 20 per cent of the voting capital of Tyne Tees Television.

Mr Gwyn Ward Thomas, who built Trident over the past 13 years, half the time as managing director, yesterday stepped down as chairman. He had planned to buy out Tridents remaining non-gaming businesses on his departure, but a higher bidder beat him.

Mr Thomas confirmed that he will now be discussing some form of golden handshake payment with the company but said the figure would not be large.

At the time of leaving, he was earning £102,000 a year on a five-year contract. He has also been granted options to buy 250,000 Trident shares, a large number at prices between 49p and 51p each, and the rest at around 80p per share.

At last night's stock market price, down 2p to 139p, his option shares are valued at £347.500.

Broken Hill acts to stop Bell bid

Broken Hill Proprietary, Australia' biggest public company, has taken legal action to try to halt the part bid launched on Monday by Mr Robert Holmes à Court's Bell Resources, an offshoot of his Bell Group.

BHP has applied for an injunction restraining Mr Holmes à Court on the grounds that there is insufficient information for shareholders. The hearing has been adjourned until tomorrow morning. Yesterday, the two sides disputed the interpretation of the court's order. BHP said the adjournment effectively froze Bell's A$222m (£145m) share swop offer for up to 16 million BHP shares until the hearing was over.

But Mr Holmes à Court said in Perth that the undertaking did not stop Bell from accepting tendered BHP shares but it had agreed not to register them yet.

He said that Bell had already received 6 million acceptances for the bid and that the offer's first come, first served rule still stood. The acceptances are said to have come from institutions in London, Europe and Hongkong. Mr Holmes à Court also said that BHP was wrong to have claimed that the adjournment had frozen his offer.

● Shares of London Pavilion rose from £11½ to £15½ yesterday after Epicure Holdings, the construction and property group headed by Mr Reg Brealey, announced that it had increased its stake from 10 to 29 per cent of the company.

● AIDCOM International, the fast-growing market research design and computer company, is pressing ahead with plans to seek a full stock market listing in April. Mr Pratt Thompson, chairman, said yesterday than the application for a full listing would be made in mid-April to coincide with the company's annaul meeting.

● Cowie is taking over one of its rival Ford and Vauxhall motor dealers, Hanger Investment, in a £5m agreed offer.

BRITISH FUNDS

1983/84 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS							
104½	101⅟₁₆	Exch 14% 1984		101⅟₁₆	..	13.853	9.291
98¾	92¾	Exch 3% 1984		98½	+⅟₁₆	3.049	8.145
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

MEDIUMS · LONGS · COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN · LOCAL AUTHORITIES · DOLLAR STOCKS · BANKS AND DISCOUNTS · BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES · COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL (A—B, C—E, F—H, I—N, O—S, T—Z) · FINANCIAL TRUSTS · INSURANCE · INVESTMENT TRUSTS · SHIPPING · MINES · OIL · PROPERTY · PLANTATIONS · MISCELLANEOUS · UNLISTED SECURITIES

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
495	382	Ash & Lacy	491	−1	25.7	5.2	9.4
293	171	Ass Book	288	..	10.4	3.6	12.0
170	129½	Ass Brit Food	162	..	6.9	4.2	7.2
162	102	Ass Dairies	148	..	3.7	2.5	21.4
99	80	Ass Fisheries	98	..	3.6	3.6	9.8
155	86	Ass Leisure	150	..	5.9	3.9	13.1
483	138	Ass News	480	..	14.9	3.1	22.6
122	63	Ass Paper	122	..	6.0b	4.9	10.0
460	235	Atlantic Comp	455	..	1.4	0.3	23.4
109	78½	Attwoods PLC	109	..	3.3	3.1	22.3
57	25	Ault & Wiborg	44	..	1.2	2.7	14.7
212	144	Granada 'A'	198	..	8.3	4.4	15.2
368	301	Grand Met PLC	355	+4	13.6	3.9	13.4
86	32	Grattan PLC	78	..	..e	..	28.5
636	503	Gt Univ Stores	581	+3	20.7	3.6	12.8
631	498	Do A	570	+2	20.7	3.6	12.6
168	113	Gripperrods	166	−2	7.0	4.2	7.8
173	104½	Grosvenor Grp	147	+2	7.5	5.1	9.0
211	120½	GKN	206	+2	11.4b	5.5	24.8
138	105	H.A.T. Grp	114	..	4.6b	4.1	15.3
237	136	HTV	234	..	15.7	6.7	8.3
302	196	Habitat	290	+6	8.6b	3.0	20.1
187	120	Milletts Leis	128	+2	9.9	7.8	..
59½	31½	Mitchell Cotts	58½	+½	5.2	8.8	13.0
56	20	Moben Grp	24	−1	0.4	1.5	6.9
30	18	Modern Eng	18	−2	..e	..	..
165	96	Molins	132	..	11.3	8.6	3.6
147	112	Monk A.	136	..	8.6b	6.3	5.7
9	5	Montecatini	9	..	..	..	..
91	66	More O'Ferrall	85	−3	4.3	5.0	13.7
147	78	Morgan Cruc	139	+2	10.2	7.3	28.8
245	135	Moss Bros	235	..	5.8	2.5	22.0
248	182	Mowlem J.	230	+2	15.1	6.6	9.7
192	128	Muirhead	152	+6	7.1	4.7	11.2
T—Z							
21½	13½	TDK	19¾	−¼	11.4	0.6	27.1
250	132	TI Group	242	−2	10.7	4.4	..
203	21	TACE	188	..	4.3	2.3	13.1
90	34	TSL Therm Synd	55	..	..	..	10.1
28½	14½	TSW	28½	..	1.7	6.0	11.4
25⅟₁₆	20½	Takeda BDR	£20½	−½	..	..	22.5
7⅛	4	Talbex Grp	5½	..	..	..	..
464	390	Tarmac PLC	452	+4	16.3	3.6	15.8
435	239½	Tate & Lyle	385	+5	22.9	5.9	8.3
670	485	Taylor Woodrow	655	..	27.9	4.3	13.3
70	40	New Darien Oil	65	+½	0.4e	0.6	
39½	23½	N Throg Inc 83	39½	+½	3.1b	7.9	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Sterling: Spot and Forward

[illegible]

Money Market Rates

[illegible]

Other Markets

[illegible]

Dollar Spot Rates

[illegible]

Euro-$ Deposits

[illegible]

Gold

[illegible]

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THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Bumpy ride for BA privatization plans

Lord King, chairman of British Airways, has an important engagement with the Prime Minister this morning. Both remain dedicated to privatizing BA, but Lord King now senses that some of the ground may be taken from under his feet by the combined forces of Sir Adam Thomson, lobbying skillfully for British Calendonian, a laid back Secretary of State for Transport in the languid shape of Mr Nicholas Ridley, a wet and confused Tory Aviation Committee, and the discreetly powerful Civil Aviation Authority. In a nutshell, Lord King would argue that it would be better for BA to remain state-owned, coining money for the Exchequer than to come to the City with a prospectus holed by the transfer or profitable routes to British Caledonian.

An exaggeration, of course, but hardly an overstatement of BA's fear that the Whitehall wind is now blowing too strongly in BCal's favour. To BA the CAA's award of a licence to BCal to fly the London to Riyadh route is a prophetic straw: BA no longer feels confident that of business from BA to BCal if the CAA's present inquiry into aviation policy extends to a recommendation that BCal should have a bigger slice of the action.

Understandably, Lord King feels a little cross that his and his team's achievement in turning BA into a viable airline in two years might might be deflated in the run up to privatization, scheduled at present for March next year. BA has drastically slimmed its bloated labour force, with little union trouble; closed off an index-linked pension fund; begun punching its weight in all its commercial operations; resisted the blandishments of the Treasury in not putting all its goods in the window in preparation for the privatization issue; and made a profit before interest comfortably in excesss of £250m in the year to end of March. It seems that the sight of a big, powerful and efficient BA has struck terror in some Conservative fainthearts: hence the trying on of the tartan.

BA is not afraid of competition from BCal, which is not what Sir Adam Thomson actually wants. He proposes that some BA routes should be transferred, at a price, to BCal: with them would come BA's profits. BCal deserves every legitimate encouragement but if, as it would appear, Sir Adam is under pressure from leading shareholders who want BCal to be floated so that they can reduce their shareholdings, then this should be clearly understood. A BCal prospectus primed with some juicy BA routes would have added appeal.

Lord King can be relied on to bring the fight over routes into the open He would regard BCal as a predator to be fought as predators are normally fought when companies in private industry clash. But his main weapon might turn out to be British Telecommunications. Thinking the unthinkable for a moment, mounting doubts and reservations about BT's future role as a private sector monopoly might just delay the flotation beyond the autumn.

If that happened the sale of BA could be brought forward to satisfy the Treasury's enormous appetite for the proceeds of asset sales. BA's prospectus, especially if Lord King has his wish and a 100 per cent of the equity is offered, would need all the charm at the Government's command.

Looking to the medium term

One of the Chancellor's main tasks in the Budget will be to breathe new life into the Government's tattered Medium Term Financial Strategy for reducing inflation, which has been the subject of some bad-mouthing in the City recently. Put simply, the City wants the Chancellor to show how he proposes to get from here – 5 per cent inflation – to there – the price stability the Government has made its ultimate goal.

Mr Lawson has never promised stable prices within the lifetime of the present Parliament (nor is he necessarily committed to zero as opposed to very low inflation). But the further into the distant future that goal is pushed the less credible an object of policy it appears.

So the pressure is on for the Government to demonstrate that price stability is within its grasp. Mr Lawson's problem is that the MTFS embodies only the shallowest of declines in money growth and public borrowing, with a commensurately snail-like approach to zero inflation. (It would not be believed if it did not.) Hence the suggestion being considered by ministers of extending the MTFS from the present three years to a full five years in the Budget.

One intriguing aspect of this proposal is that the Treasury would have to pencil in numbers for public borrowing and so for state spending for the two years beyond 1986-87, the final year covered by last week's public spending White Paper. Mr Lawson's Cabinet colleagues may not relish the prospect of battling with the Treasury on spending again next year with one hand tied behind their backs.

No numbers adorn Mr Roy Hattersley's alternative Budget, unveiled to his constituency Labour party last night. It is not hard to understand why. Last year's Labour programme, with every extra spending proposal running into the billions, became a clear electoral embarrassment.

Mr Hattersley, by contrast, is clearly trying to present the City with the acceptable face of socialism – proposing only a "moderate" increase in public borrowing. And to industry, he is trying to present something more than acceptable – a positively appealing combination of policies to revive manufacturing.

This is a clever strategy, in two respects. Industrialists, like the rest of humanity, easily feel under-appreciated; if the Chancellor does not sweeten his Budget by making another cut in employers' national insurance surcharge, Mr Hattersley can now conveniently claim that he was in favour of abolishing it.

But meanwhile, Mr Hattersley will have scored in another political direction. His outline of Labour economic policy, in its apparent moderation, is a clear attempt to upstage the Alliance. It is hard enough to mark out a distinctive economic policy between Tory and Labour when the two are rushing to unpalatable extremes. As the Government's strategy begins to yield good results, and Mr Hattersley softens Labour's image, distinction becomes still harder for the party in the middle.

Stock Exchange to cut costs on large gilt-edged deals

By Our City Staff

The Stock Exchange yesterday cut the cost of dealing in mulit-million poind gilt-edged deals as part of its move to abolish the market's minimum commissions structure on stocks and shares. It is estimated the changes will wipe between £10m and £15m from the annual income of the big stockbroking firms, whose main revenue comes from large deals in Government stocks. Gilt dealings accounts for 85 per cent of the total turnover of the Stock Exchange.

The Stock Exchange's minimum commission structure is due to be abolished by the end of 1986 under its agreement with the Government last summer.

The Exchange statemnt said that the abolition of fixed commission on smaller gilt bargains and on all equity bargains will not be made before autumn next year.

The adjustments in large bargain gilt commissions means a reduction of between 10 per cent and 20 per cent in the commission charged for bargains valued at between £500,000 and £20m.

This would mean that an institution trading £10m of long-dated Government stock would save more than £1,000 or 15 per cent of its commission costs, while a £20m deal would save £2,000. There will, however, be no change on deals of up to £250,000.

The move has caused a wide difference of opinion within the Stock Exchange Council. Two weeks ago after a heated debate the council agreed in principle to sending the Exchange's markets committee back to calculate the figures.

The issue was put the vote at yesterday's meeting of the 46-man ruling council, and has pleased few members.

One stockbroker said: "This is a complete waste of time. We are just round the corner from dual capacity, but before it arrives our income is cut just as we are about to enter the most competitive period we've ever seen."

The commissions adjustment takes effect on April 9, the same day that fixed commissions for those dealing in overseas securities is abolished.

The Stock Exchange intends to issue a discussion document on the future structure of the market as soon as possible. It says that it would be impractical to abolish commissions before next autumn because of the measures needed to ensure the continuing liquidity and efficiency of the central market and afford proper protection to investors.

Exco International, the money broker, plans to start a London stockbroking firm later this year, according to Mr John Gunn, chief executive. He told journalists last night that he planned to use two members of Exco's Hongkong-based WICO firm as the nucleus. Exco will hold 29 per cent of the shares.

New minimum gilt-edged commissions (from April 9)

Long-dated (more than 10 years to run)
0.8% on first £2,500
0.25% on next £15,500
0.125% on next £232,000
0.1% on next £750,000
0.09% on next £3m
0.04% on next £6m
0.02% on excess

Medium-dated (5-10 years to run)
0.8% on first £2,500
0.125% on next £15,500
0.625% on next £232,000
0.05% on next £750,000
0.045% on next £3m
0.01% on excess

Commissions on short-dated securities remain at discretion

Shares up on ICI hopes

The equity market is still hoping for a bumper set of profits from ICI tomorrow and could hardly contain its excitement yesterday as share prices continued to advance.

The FT Index closed 6.8 up at 819.3, while the Stock Exchange Index of 100 leading shares rose 9.0 to 1,044. Demand again centred on specialist situations, but dealers remained in a confident mood and expect equities to race ahead once the ICI figures were announced.

Market report, page 22

STOCK EXCHANGES

SE 100 Index: 1044.4 up 9.0 (day's high, 1044.7, low, 1038.4
FT Index: 819.3 up 6.8
FT Gilts: 82.98 up 0.19
FT All Share: 494.30 up 3.44
Bargains: 20,532
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 106.99 up 0.27
New York: Dow Jones Average: (latest) 1142.27 down 6.5
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,970.64 up 32.81
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1066.91 down 5.90

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4440 down 20pts
Index 82.7 up 0.4
DM 3.9150 up 0.0275
FrF 12.0700 up 0.0075
Yen 339.00 up 1.25
Dollar
Index 129.2 up 0.4
DM 2.7025 up 0.0168
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4395
Dollar DM 2.7055
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.573429
SDR £0.726397

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9 1/2
Discount market loans week fixed 9 1/16
3 month interbank 3 13/32 – 9 3/8

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $388.25 pm $389.00
close $388.25-388.75 (£269.00-269.50)
New York (latest): $385f .25
Krugerrand* (per coin): $400.00-41.50 (£277.00)
Sovereigns* (new): $90.25-91.25 (£62.50-63.25)
*Excludes VAT

Pound and dollar rise on Gulf oil fears

By Frances Williams Economics Correspondent

The dollar and sterling gained sharply on world currency markets yesterday as fears of an interruption to the West's oil supplies from the Middle East took hold.

During hectic trading in Europe the dollar rose above DM 2.72 before subsiding near the end to close in London at DM 2.7025, 1.68 pfennigs up on the day.

The pound, buoyed by its petro-currency status, surged ahead against the European and currencies. Its trade-weighted index rose 0.4 to 82.7 per cent of its 1975 value, the highest level reached this year, with a gain of 2.75 pfennings to DM 3.9150 and 1.25 yen to Y339.

Against the dollar the pound remained fairly steady, losing only 20 points to $1.4440, after rising above $1.45 earlier in the day.

Dealers said yesterday that it was too early to say whether the recent decline in the dollar would now be reversed – but there was no doubt that the market had had a bad attack of nerves after the latest flare-up in the Gulf war, reinforced by concern over the situation in the Lebanon. If those fears persisted the dollar and sterling might strengthen further, they suggested.

The price of gold, which might have been expected to rise in the wake of the Middle East conflict, scarcely moved finishing in London at $388.50 an ounce. High American interest rates and the prospect of currency gains elsewhere are overriding its role as a safe haven.

A calmer atmospher prevailed in early New York trading after hectic dealings in London, with the dollar remaining fairly steady.

Most dealers appear to take the view that the dollar is still set for a fall in the longer term and that the present flurry is an interruption to the downward trend.

Growing anxieties over swollen United States budget and trade deficits have now begun to outweigh the attractions of high interest rates. The failure of the dollar to respond positively to encouraging economic data last week has been taken as a clear signal that the currency has peaked.

Though firmer Eurodollar interest rates were mentioned yesterday as a factor in the dollar's advance, dealers pointed out that rates had risen last week without any perceptible effect.

However, if Middle East tensions persist or worsen the traditional attractions of the dollar may reassert themselves. There are growing fears that the Federal Reserve may move to tighten credits, and push up interest rates to dampen the booming economy which threatens to spark off a resurgence of inflation.

London Brick board strengthens defence

By Jeremy Warner

London Brick today posts the last of its formal defence documents to shareholders amid growing confidence among its directors that the company will survive Hanson Trust's nine-week takeover siege.

The £247m bid reaches its climax next Tuesday and all the indications are that the result will be finely balanced. Hanson only needs another 21 per cent of the shares to win but while success seemed almost certain when it raised its bid for the third time to 165p a share in cash a week ago, market observors are now beginning to doubt that it has done enough to win the day.

One fund manager said that Hanson may have made a grave tactical error in raising its share stake to 30 per cent over the last week in a series of market raids. "This indicates to me that Hanson will return with another bid in a year's time if it loses this one, underwriting the share price and providing London Brick with the incentive to perform.

"If Hanson has not raised its share stake, people might have been frightened into accepting the bid in the belief that the company would go away for good if rejected," he added.

This arguement, that with London Brick shares yielding over 7 per cent shareholders will lose nothing by sticking with the company for another year with Hanson in the background, has been exploited to the full by the company's merchant bank, Lazard Brothers, in an intensive lobby of leading shareholders over the past few days.

Some have been told of comments that Lord Hanson is reputed to have made to Mr Jeremy Rowe, London Brick's chairman, at the beginning of the takeover battle. He is believed to have said that owning London Brick had been an unattainable dream for him when his company was smaller and that it had always been his intention to acquire it once big enough.

In the stock market London Brick's shares are standing at a 3p discount to Hanson's cash terms and are well below the value of the convertible loan stock alternative offer because of fears that the bid may fail.

Today's defence document will, underline the company's desire for continued independence.

Indicators confirm recovery

By Our Economics Correspondent

The recovery looks set to continue throughout the coming year, according to the latest set of indicators which signal the course of the British economy.

The longer leading index, which foreshadows turning points in the economy about 12 months ahead, rose again last month, continuing the upward trend which, with few interruptions, has been sustained for three years.

The Government's economic forecast, to be published next month with the Budget, is expected to reaffirm growth this year of 3 per cent, the same as last year, with the upswing continuing into 1985.

The January longer leading index is based on only three of the five components and may be revised later. Higher share prices have been the main cause of the rise in recent months but the other components have also contributed, the Central Statistical Office said.

The shorter leading index, which looks about six months ahead, also rose again in January, based on two of the five components.

NEWS IN BRIEF

UK backs freer rules on imports

Britain is to argue for a liberalization of the rules of origin governing imports into the European Community from the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries under the Lomé Convention.

The proposals may include abolishing the "safeguard" clause designed to protect leading European industries like textiles.

A paper drafted by the Department of Trade and Industry also looks at amending the rules of origin so that African, Caribbean and Pacific countries may export more freely to the EC goods not wholly made in their areas.

● **Wall Street** prices remained lower in moderate early trading yesterday and the Dow Jones industrial average was down fractionally at about 1,148. Losing issues held a six to five lead over gainers. The volume was 16 million shares.

● **A venture capital** investment trust is being launched by Statham Duff Stoop, the stockbrokers, with Mr Edward du Cann as chairman. It will raise up to £5m by selling up to 20 million shares at 25p each to the public. It expects to invest £1.75m in the first six months and has three high technology companies already lined up.

● **Steel and foundries** group F. H. Lloyd Holdings has taken over Rollstud, a supplier of high quality fastenings to the oil, gas and petrochemical industries, in a £950,000 deal as part of its expansion into oil and offshore supplies.

● **Shareholders** in Oil and Associated Investment Trust have been advised by their board to reject a bid for the company by Cluff Oil.

Franchising sales may soar to £1bn level

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

With franchising penetrating new sectors in Britain, sales are growing 16 per cent a year, and the British Franchise Association is predicting overall sales of nearly £1bn by the end of this year. The number of jobs in franchising by this year's end is expected to have risen by two-thirds in two years to a total of about 50,000.

About 5,000 franchised businesses have now been established in Britain, Mr Brian Smith, the newly elected chairman of the BFA said yesterday.

But franchising has branched out well beyond the fast-food chains with which it tends to be identified.

Anicare Group Services with headquarters at Shoreham, Sussex, is franchising a veterinary service. Aids Computer Services in Finchley, London, is an accountancy franchise which also offers a company "doctor" service.

Among the older established franchise operations the Wimpy fast food chain is planning to add another 20 outlets this year.

Foreign collaboration if AE bid fails

GKN finds merger alternative

By Andrew Cornelius

Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds plans to conclude a series of collaboration deals with foreign motor component manufacturers, if it fails in ints attempt to takeover rival Midlands components manufacturer AE, formerly Associated Engineering.

The plan will be invoked if GKN's takeover bid is blocked by the Government on monopoly grounds, or if the AE board launches a successful defence against a renewed takeover attempt by GKN.

Sir Trevor Holdsworth, chairman of GKN, said, in an interview with *The Times*, "If we do not conclude the AE takeover we would follow our alternative plan within three to six months".

He said that the plan had been carefully researched by GKN after the decision last September kby the Government to refer the £67m takeover for invesigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.



Sir Trevor Holdsworth: not ideal options

GKN has close contacts with most of the world's leading component makers and is determined to expand its presence in the engine components field by exploiting its contacts with motor manufacturers like Ford and General Motors.

Sir Trevor added that the alternatives to merging with AE were all outside Britain and were not "ideal".

He gave a warning that if the Government did decide to reject GKN's argument that the motor components market should be treated as a European, or world market, rather than a British market then it could have potentially disastrous consequences for the British motor industry.

The logic of the merger with AE is as valid now as it was when GKN first launched its takeover attempt last year according to Sir Trevor.

"Nothing has altered to change the logic for putting together a strong engine parts group," he added.

GKN maintains that although there may be some hostility from buyers in the field over the propose merger of AE and GKN to create a monopoly supply of engine components like bearings, cylinder liners and pistons, there is no hostility from senior management at leading motor manufacturers.

FOOTBALL

Everton have the alchemy to turn a silver glint into gold

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

When Everton went down 3-0 at Wolverhampton Wanderers on December 27 it was as though they were touching the bottom of their wishing well. All they could realistically do, it seemed, was avoid relegation; but they caught the glint of silver and their fortunes changed dramatically.

Unbeaten since in 14 matches, their subsequent rise has lifted them clear of trouble and, more significantly, on to a two-lane highway to Wembley. As well as reaching the last eight of the FA Cup, they take a 2-0 lead into the second leg of their Milk Cup semi-final against Aston Villa tonight.

The facts suggest that Everton will continue their recovery and go through to meet Liverpool in the final on March 25. The first is that Villa, who need to win by three clear goals, have achieved that aim only twice this season, against an apathetic Ipswich Town in the League and against Manchester City in the third round. The second is that none of Everton's last 14 opponents have scored more than once. Ratcliffe and Mountfield, a central partnership formed just over two months ago, can justifiably claim to have tightened a defence that has conceded only six goals in the last 22 hours.

Yet these figures will count for nothing if Everton relax this evening, particularly in the first 22 minutes. With the heavy scent of an early breakthrough and the raucous noise of their supporters, Villa could still protect their own record of losing only one of seven semi-finals in the competition, to Chelsea in 1965.

Villa have only themselves to blame for the size of their task. During a disjointed first leg that was almost devoid of quality, two errors by Spink and Bremner allowed Sheedy and Richardson to give Everton their hefty advantage. Richardson has been ruled out with a broken wrist and replaced by King.

Spink, Villa's goalkeeper, admitted: "There was a complete lack of communication, a terrible misunderstanding. Nobody shouted for the ball. Everton must think they are through but it would be dangerous to write us off.

Spink, who made his full international debut during last summer's tour to Australia, but was omitted from the England squads to play France next week, added: "I know that I have made a few mistakes recently. I need a lot more experience before becoming an England regular".

Tony Barton, Villa's manager, whose own future is threatened by failure, revealed his strategy yesterday. "There was nothing surprising about it. "We have to own Everton in their own half and keep chipping away," he said. "But we must not get too excited. If the goals don't come, we must not hit the panic button".

ASTON VILLA: N Spink; G Williams, C Gibson, A Evans, D Bremner, G Mortimer, A Curbishley, G Shaw, P Withe, S McMahon, M Walters.

EVERTON: N Southall; G Stevens, J Bailey, K Ratcliffe, D Mountfield, P Reid, A Irvine, A Heath, G Sharp, A King, K Sheedy.

Referee: K Hackett (Sheffield).

Revived Rangers in test of character

Rangers, who have travelled a long way on the road to recovery since Jock Wallace returned as manager in November, aim to reach their destination tonight. Victory over Dundee United will take them into their third successive Scottish League Cup final at Hampden Park on March 25.

Wallace said: "This is the biggest test of football and character we have faced since I came back here."

A late goal last week earned Rangers a 1-1 draw in the first leg at Dundee. Now they face the reigning premier division champions with home advantage and a huge support charged with renewed optimism.

"Nothing less than 90 minutes of non-stop endeavour will satisfy me," Wallace said. "We learned a hard lesson against Hearts recently, when we lost two goals in the last few minutes, and the players now know they have to keep going right to the finish."

Wallace has made two changes to the side which beat Inverness Caledonian 6-0 in the Scottish Cup on Saturday. Clark replaces Williamson, who is cup-tied, and a training injury to the centre-half, Peterson, means that McPherson will come into the defence.

United, seeking their fourth appearance in the final in five seasons, give Bannon a late fitness test on a troublesome ankle injury. "At the moment he looks doubtful," their manager, Jim McLean, said.

The holders, Celtic, meet Aberdeen in the first leg of their semi-final at Pittodrie. Recent history clearly favours Aberdeen, the European Cup holders, who have not lost a cup tie to Celtic since Alex Ferguson arrived as Aberdeen's manager five years ago.

Ferguson said: "This is the only cup I have not won yet, so maybe this year we will get the breaks. Celtic are a hardworking side, but they haven't got over the loss of Charlie Nicholas yet."

Monday's results

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS CUP: First round: Southend 5, Reading 0; Tranmere 2, Halifax 0
WELSH CUP: Fifth round replay: Shrewsbury 1, Kidderminster 0.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Nuneaton 2, Yeovil 1; Worcester v Maidstone postponed.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Nottingham Forest v Aston Villa, postponed. Second division: Chesterfield 4, Rotherham 1.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Crystal Palace 2, Bristol Rovers 2; Southampton 1, Norwich 3.
LONDON SENIOR CUP: Croydon 0, Dulwich 1.
MIDWEEK LEAGUE CUP: Cambridge United 1, Peterborough 2.
GILBERT BEE FLOODLIGHT CUP: Lewes 3, Dorking 4 (agg 6-5).

England's new look: back row: Woodcock, Spink and Walsh. Front: Robson and Barnes

Change of style for England

The Football Association have signed a £1.5m agreement with the Cheshire-based sportswear company, Umbro, to provide England's shirts, tracksuits and training kit for the next five years. Umbro supplied the shirts in which England won the 1966 World Cup, and there is a striking similarity between their new alternative strip, and that which England wore on the day of triumph at Wembley.

The first choice white strip will have simply a red, white and blue facing at the neck and cuff, with the alternative a red shirt. The three lions England badge figures far more prominently, after the more gimmicky designs supplied by Admiral in recent years. In return for the five-year contract, Umbro will have worldwide marketing rights to the kit and souvenirs.

The FA have ensured, however, that the style can be amended only once in the period of the agreement. "We had to ensure that parents and children would not need to pay out every season to keep up with the England team," the FA secretary, Ted Croker, said. Mr Croker also confirmed that there was no possibility of a sponsor's name appearing on the England shirt at any time in the foreseeable future.

"We have had offers to sponser individual internationals in the past, but did not think it fitting, so I cannot see us getting a sponsor in the way that so many league teams have", Mr Crocker said. "In fact, I think we have seen the end of new sponsorship for a while, especially as we have support for the coaching school which has been one of the FA's priorities for some time."

The Umbro marketing director, Coln Ross, described the strip as "the dignified and classical look which is England's shirt and not a manufacturer's". The contract has a basic fee of just over £1m, which can be increased to £1.5m if England achieve success in the five-year period.

Phil Neal, dropped from the England squad for the international in France on February 29, was among the players invited by Umbro to model the new strip, at a press launch in London yesterday. "It's typical of Phil's thoroughly professional approach that he kept the date", the England manager, Bobby Robson, said. "He could yet get around to wearing the new shirt for real".

Robson described the new shirt as "chic". He said: "It gives a new prominence to the badge and mixes simplicity with originality. It's a new shirt for a new breed of player".

Villa in trouble over shirts

Aston Villa are the first English club to face disciplinary action over an alleged contravention of television shirt advertising regulations. The club was yesterday summoned by the Football League to a management committee commission to be held shortly in London.

The trouble arose at Aston Villa's home game against Liverpool on January 20, shown live on BBC television, when it is claimed Villa's sponsorship shirts logo was larger than permitted under league rules.

Villa's commercial manager, Tony Stephens said "our contract with the Japanese business machine company Mita is due to be signed before the game against Everton tomorrow and I am sure they will not be pleased to have their name involved in this matter. In the rush to put the Mita logo on our shirts for the night of the Liverpool live game we made a genuine mistake

Supporters round on idols of past

Bonn (Reuter) – West German players once the nation's idols, now face abuse and insults from disgruntled supporters. League clubs are alarmed at this rift. Many believe the problem must be tackled quickly before it cripples the game.

Harald Schumacher, the national team's goalkeeper, was shocked when one supporter asked him: "Why are you so arrogant?" Another asked: "Is it because you earn so much money that you care so little about what happens in the stadium?"

Schumacher said the meeting with supporters arranged by the Cologne club resembled an inquistion and vowed he would never attend another. The Colgne manager sighed nastalgically for the days when supporters merely wanted to know what size of boots the players wore.

Schumacher's experience is not an isolated one. Paul Breitner, the former Bayern Munich and national team midfield player, said he retired from the game at 31 partly because he was "no longer prepared to be called a swine by eight-year-old fans.

Bernard Dietz, a former national team captain, with 13 years' League experience, says spectators attitudes have changed: If you pause for breath, he said, they are liable to shout: "Move yourselfe, you lazy dog."

Ask a West German supporter what he thinks of the state of the game, and he is almost certain to reply that the players are overpaid, arrogant and cosseted, and that they put little effort into the sport which rewards them so lavishly.

The discontent can be traced to the 1982 World Cup in Spain, where the national team, despite reaching the final, attracted an unprecedented wave of bad publicity. An unexpected 2-1 defeat at the hands of Algeria, the 1-0 win over Austria, which looked like an arranged result, and Schumacher's semi-final foul that put Patrick Battiston, of France, in hospital were all contributory factors.

Arrogant statements to the press and refusals to give interviews did not help. But the biggest *faux pas* of all occurred at Gijon when players threw water over West German supporters to drive them from the team hotel.

The national side stumbled badly before qualifying for the European Championship finals, losing twice to Northern Ireland and only beating Albania at home with a goal 10 minutes from time. Then, for the first time, not one of the six clubs in European competitions reached the quarter-finals.

League attendances last season fell from 8.3m five years ago to 6.2m, the lowest figure since 1972-73, when the game was recovering from a bribery scandal. There is little evidence of any improvement this season.

Borussia Dortmund are following Cologne in starting meetings between players an supporters, and Bayer Leverkusen have started a public relations campaign under the slogan "Professionals with heart".

More cynical observers say the only way to satisfy a football public brought up on success is to offer them even more success.

Yesterday's results

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Birmingham 1, Watford 1; Fulham 0, Leicester 4
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Cambridge University 1, Southern Amateur League XI 2

Gould disciplines seven for 'letting down' club

Coventry City's manager, Bobby Gould, who banished his first team goalkeeper, Raddi Avramovic, to the reserves for the remainder of the season because of poor displays, has disciplined seven of his apprentice professionals.

All aged 17, they had been suspended by a local education college for unpunctuality, disobedience and disrespect to the teaching staff. Gould fined them two weeks' wages, imposed an 11pm curfew, and ordered them not to use the team bus to travel the five miles to the training camp.

He said: "I know codes of behaviour have changed but I still believe discipline is needed. These young men let down this club and if they are ever fortunate enought to play for us, then I will know I played my part in making them see their responsibility."

● Wigan Athletic's manager, Harry McNally, who has reshaped them on a shoestring budget, has accepted a two-year contract. He took over in the summer, when the club's future was in doubt, and had no contract.

● Alan Kelly, who has steered Preston North End out of relegation trouble since taking over from Gordon Lee at Christmas, has been rewarded with a new contract which will keep him at Deepdale at least until the end of next season.

● The full back, Brian Sparrow's, loan period from Arsenal to Gillingham has been extended by another month. But Sparrow remains on the injury list with a foot wound

United are blacked out

Manchester United's plan to persuade supporters not to travel to their European match in Barcelona next month have been blocked by Spanish television. United wanted to show the European Cup Winner's Cup quarter-final first leg live on big screens at Old Trafford but Spanish television has rejected the plan, which was to have been operated by the Dutch company, Big Smile Communications.

United had appealed to their supporters not to travel to the match after trouble at previous European games, notably in Valencia. Martin Edwards, United's chairman, said yesterday: "We have been working on this for some time, but it seems impossible without the co-operation of Spanish television. We went in strongly for the idea because we felt it was disappointing to some of our genuine supporters, who would have liked to have gone but were abiding by the club's policy."

United received a telex from the Dutch company yesterday which said: "The project has been boycotted by television Espanol. They refused to co-operate, and we have no alternative but to abandon the idea." Mr Edwards added: "Televising the match would have been the best method of persuading fans not to travel. But now there seems no way we can get around the problem to guarantee the safety of our fans."

● Madrid (AFP) – Juan Lozano, the Real Madrid midfield player, will be out of action for the rest of the season after breaking a bone in his left leg during his comeback match on Sunday.

Wallace: looking for 90 minutes' non-stop endeavour

CRICKET

Vote of confidence given to Gower

From Derek Hodgson, Wellington

After an exuberant practice at the Basin Reserve yesterday David Gower informed the selectors he would be happy to continue opening the innings in the Rothman's international one-day series. Consequently, the England team were unchanged for the second match.

Bob Willis, the captain, explained: "David feels in reasonable form despite his low scores and once he felt confident to carry on as opener there was no further discussion.

"If all three opening batsmen were in tremendous form we might have to consider changing the order. I'm a great fan of Chris Tavare but Chris Smith did the job well on a difficult pitch at Christchurch and we felt he deserved another opportunity".

Willis added: "Neither Gower nor Lamb are in poor enough form to be left out. I believe England players, who are accustomed to playing every day, find it difficult to get into form and maintain their form when they are not playing all the time".

The pitch, as expected, is a near perfect surface for a one-day match. All 16,000 tickets were sold and the ground authority banned the import of alcohol into the ground (it is on sale in certain areas) and warned would-be miscreants.

New Zealanders feel very strongly about law and order and take none too kindly to having sporting events disrupted. They would certainly not tolerate the kind of behaviour that all too often spoils one-day matches in England.

The police faced a bigger problem for traffic leaving the Basin Reserve and had to cross the crowds heading for Elton John's concert at Athletic Park.

NEW ZEALAND (from): J G Wright, B A Edgar, G P Howarth (capt), M D Crowe, J J Crowe, J V Coney, R J Hadlee, B L Cairns, N D Smith, E J Chatfield, G K Robertson, T J Franklin.

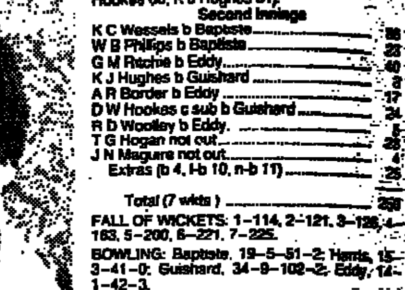
ENGLAND: D I Gower, C I Smith, A J Lamb, D W Randall, M W Gatting, I T Botham, V J Marks, R W Taylor, N A Foster, R G D Willis (capt), N D Cowans.

Lillee puts Miandad in hospital

Islamabad (Reuter) – Javed Miandad, the Pakistani batsman, is in hospital in Calcutta after being hit in the face by a ball from Dennis Lillee, of Australia, in a benefit match there for Bishen Bedi, the former Indian captain. Miandad has been advised to rest by doctors and is awaiting X-ray examination results.

Cricket board sources said the injury report was worrying the Pakistan selectors, who are to meet on Friday to select the team for the first Test match against England, starting on March 2 in Karachi. Miandad was scheduled to return to Pakistan yesterday for a one-day National Cricket Championship match at Hyderabad today.

Imran Khan, Miandad's successor as captain, is recovering from a stress fracture of the left shin he received more than a year ago and is unavailable for the series; and the veteran wicketkeeper, Wasim Bari, has retired.



Jim Yardley, the Northamptonshire batsman, has retired from county cricket. Yardley, aged 37, has been released from his contract, and is joining a soft drinks company at Tring.

The left-handed Yardley, one of the characters of the county circuit, first joined Worcestershire, and switched to Northamptonshire in 1976. He spent 19 years in county cricket, and last year captained the Northamptonshire second team.

Australians open tour with victory

Basseterre, St Kitts (Reuter) – The Australians won the opening match of their West Indies tour when they beat the Leeward Islands by 204 runs on the fourth and final day here yesterday. The touring team had the Leewards in trouble at 96 for six at lunch after the hosts were set 375 to win in six hours.

The Australians declared at the overnight score of 250 for seven in their second innings. The six wickets to fall were evenly shared by the fast bowlers Rackemann, Alderman and Maguire.

Except for Williams, every player fell to an attacking shot, and the opener Lawrence (33) and the acting captain Eddy (38) were the only batsmen to reach double figures.

Lawrence and Eddy put on 49 for the fourth wicket in 37 minutes, with Lawrence particularly playing handsomely. Eddy made his runs gracefully in 66 minutes before aiming across the line at Maguire and falling leg-before.

AUSTRALIANS: First innings 429 for 7 dec (K C Wessels 126 rtd hurt, A R Border 74, D W Hookes 66, K J Hughes 61).

Second Innings

K C Wessels b Baptiste	[illegible]
W B Phillips b Baptiste	[illegible]
G M Ritchie b Eddy	40
K J Hughes b Guishard	8
A R Border b Eddy	17
D W Hookes c sub b Guishard	34
R D Woolley b Eddy	5
T G Hogan not out	28
J N Maguire not out	4
Extras (b 4, l-b 10, n-b 11)	25
Total (7 wkts)	250

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–114, 2–121, 3–128, 4–163, 5–200, 6–221, 7–225.

BOWLING: Baptiste, 19–5–51–2; Harris, 15–3–41–0; Guishard, 34–9–102–2; Eddy, 14–1–42–3.

LEEWARD ISLANDS: First innings: 305 (S W Julien 123, E A Baptiste 57 not out; C G Rackemann 6 for 105).

Second Innings

R B Richardson c Phillips b Rackemann	0
L Lawrence c Woolley b Alderman	33
S W Julien c Hughes b Rackemann	2
R M Otto b Alderman	4
V A Eddy lbw b Maguire	38
S I Williams c Woolley b Maguire	2
E A E Baptiste b Alderman	3
N C Guishard c Hughes b Hogan	50
A Merick b Maguire	5
J B Harris b Rackemann	12
D Thompson not out	0
	0
Extras (b 8, lb 10, nb 3)	21
Total	171

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–0, 2–10, 3–21, 4–70, 5–84, 6–87, 7–96, 8–115, 9–169, 10–170.

BOWLING: Rackemann, 9.4-1-4-42; Alderman, 16-5-47-3; Maguire, 15-3-37-3; Wessels, 3-0-13-0; Hogan 7-2-13-1.

SQUASH RACKETS

Miss Spurgeon to the fore

By Colin McQuillan

The emergence of Nicola Spurgeon as the outstanding tactical performer in Monday's finals of the first British Doubles Squash Championships, at South Marston Country Club, Swindon, may be significant encouragement for those wo see the fourhanded version as a potential link between top tournament squash and its club roots.

Doubles squash has become increasingly popular among club players – although the ancient rules need modern attention and only two of the special large courts remain in existence – and the South Marston event has grown to such an extent in recent years that it deserves national status.

Miss Spurgeon won the women's championship, her first British title, partnering the former national singles champion, Alison Cumings, to whom she lies second in the Surrey rankings. She was the influencial playmaker in their 15-9, 12-15, 15-8, 15-5 defeat of the top seeded pair, Martine Le Moignan and Barbara Diggens, and showed remarkable domination of the forehand court, creating successive central openings for Miss Cumings to exploit.

In the men's final, the top seed, Christy Willstrop and Robert Forde, powered their way past the young partnership of Darren Mabbs and Jon Cornish, from Avon, who surprised everyone by carrying their sophisticated and athletic combination through a field packed with specialist pairs and former internationals.

Willstrop and Forde needed more than three hours to deal with the quarter-final challenge of Naylor and Gay. They seemed set for a similar semi-final marathon against the former public schools champions, Stuart Courtney and Pat Keenan, until Courtney's left ankle collapsed in the fourth game.

Mabbs and Cornish were disposed of 17-14, 15-11, 15-12 in just over an hour-and-a-half of uninventive but impressively precise, ruthless bodyline play.

A similar performance had been planned by the top women's seeds against their lighter and less powerful opponents, but Miss Spurgeon's tactical smothering of the Diggens' right forehand disconnected the sometimes sleepy left-handed drive that forms the basis of Miss Le Moignan's game.

BOXING



Tony Sibson, of Britain (left), meets Louis Acaries, of France, the European middleweight champion, in Paris and few words are exchanged as neither speaks the other's language. However, the Frenchman's unmarked face speaks volumes; so much so that Sibson said of his title tilt on Saturday: "I'm going to have to work hard."

IN BRIEF

Red Porsche is Svan's reward

Stockholm, (AFP) – Gunde Svan, who won two nordic skiing gold medals and a silver for Sweden at the Winter Olympic Games in Sarajevo, has been presented with a sports car for his achievement.

Svan, aged 22, was promised the car of his dreams, a red Porsche Turbo worth around US$45,000 (£31,468), by a businessman in his native village of Vansbro, if he won at least two gold medals.

He won gold medals in the men's 15km cross-country and as a member of the 4 x 10km relay team, and a silver in the 50km.

OLYMPIC GAMES: The Mayor of Olympia has said that the inhabitants of his town will do whatever they can to prevent commercialisation of the Olympic flame by the organisers of the Los Angeles Games. In an open letter, Mayor Spyros Fotinos warned Tom Bradley, Mayor of Los Angeles, against commercialisation.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Under-19 party to tour Australia

By Keith Macklin

The increasing importance of junior and schoolboy rugby is highlighted by the first ever tour of the British schools under-19 team to Australia in July, culminating in an international match in Sydney against the powerful Australian Combined High Schools.

The tour will be under the auspices of BUSCARLA, the British Upper Schools and Colleges Amateur Rugby League Association, and will be undertaken by a party of young professional players, amateurs and Rugby Union players, all of whom are full-time students in the sixth form and upper colleges of Britain. Eight matches will be played over a five-week period. BUSCARLA was formed only two years ago, but the code has made great strides throughout schools and colleges during those two years.

The captain of the touring party, which leaves on July 12, is Shaun Edwards, of St John Rigby, Wigan, who cost Wigan a reputed £35,000, when they persuaded him to sign senior forms. Others on professional forms are Moulden (Bradford Northern), Wood (Hunslet), Morris (Oldham), Hulme (Widnes), Wilson (Leeds) and Westhead (Leigh). Members of the management team are Steve Alderson, Peter Deakin, Brian Howell, Martin Crick and Mike Loftus, all members of college staffs.

SQUAD: J Prescott (Huddersfield New College), M Wood (Middleton Park HS, Leeds), J Sharp (Wakefield College), R Mackay-Gunn (Wakefield College), P Morris (Airedale HS, Castleford), I Cockerham (Castleford HS), P Hulme (St Joseph's HS, Widnes), S Moore (De La Salle College, Salford), M Wilson (St John Fisher HS, Dewsbury), R Shepherdson (Kingston HS, Hull), N Elgar (Sidney Smith HS, Hull), C Harrison (Bransholme, Hull), P Moran (St Thomas More HS, Wigan), S Hick (Sidney Smith HS, Hull), S Wilson (St John Fisher HS, Dewsbury), M Wilson (Airedale and Wharfedale College, Leeds), J Sephton (Cowley HS, St Helens), J Fazakerley (Cowley HS, St Helens), J Westhead (St Mary's HS, Leigh), S Davies (Cowley HS, St Helens), D Moulden (St Bede's GS, Bradford), P Topping (Wigan Technical College), D Roe (Bransholme HS, Hull), S Edwards (St John Rigby College Wigan, captain), P Holden (De La Salle College, Salford)

RUGBY LEAGUE: Great Britain will receive a bonus of £5,000 if they win the series against Australia on their summer tour

Frank Barrow has confirmed his resignation as Oldham coach, but only after next Sunday's Challenge Cup tie at Wigan (Keith Macklin writes). Barrow yesterday agreed to supervise this week's training for the tie. He said: "I believe Oldham are desperately in need of a new face, but I can't leave them in the lurch."

Barrow is adamant about his resignation, which follows the 42-8 trouncing at Whitehaven on Sunday, Whitehaven's first win of the season. He succeeded Peter Smethurst as coach only a fortnight ago, after being assistant coach for 14 months. Smethurst also resigned, because he felt the Oldham players were not giving of their best for him.

YACHTING

Another victory for British team

From Adrian Morgan
Cannes

Mike Holmes and Ossie Stewart kept the British flag flying at Cannes yesterday when they followed up Jo Richards and Peter Allam's success in the Flying Dutchman class with a well worked victory in the second 470 race.

They led the fleet from start to finish with Kevin Sproul and David Shellcock close astern at the line. Mike McIntyre maintained his good record in the Finn class, finishing second and sixth in the two races.

RESULTS: Soling: 1, Ville Breg (Neth); 2, Bandolowski (Den); 3, Haegli (Fra); 12, Law (GB). Flying Dutchman: 1, Hagander (Sweden); 2, Diesch (WG); 3, Schoonherr (Den); 8, Richards (GB). Star Class: 1, Carlsson (Den); 2, Stefano (Italy); 3, Hatzitsulis (Greece); 9, McMichael (GB). 470: 1st race 1, Brenac (Fra); 2, Sach (WG); 3, Stavonuter (Neth). 2nd race. 1, Holmes (GB); 2, Sproul (GB); 3, Sach (WG). Finn: 1st race. 1, Khoperski (USSR); 2, McIntyre (GB); 3, Bridge (GB). 2nd race 1, Blanco (Spain); 2, Sebrowski (Poland); 3, Hjortnaes (Den); 6, McIntyre (GB).

FOR THE RECORD

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Los Angeles Kings 3 Minnesota North Stars 2.

SQUASH RACKETS

DEBENHAMS INTERNATIONAL: Hidayat Jahan bt R Norman (NZ) 5-11, 11-9, 11-6, 11-8.

CYCLING

LAIGUEGLIA, Italy: Road race (160km) 1, G Petito (It) 4hr 8min, 2, J der Velde (Neth); 3, C Torell (It); 4, R Pevenage (Bel); 5, M Longo (It); 6, F Pirard (Neth); 7, S Hekimi (Switz); 8, B van Brabant (Bel); 9, P Gavazzi (It); 10, C Corti (It); 14, J Worre (Den); 15, A Segersall, all same time as Petito.

BADMINTON

HONGKONG: Ulster Cup: Women's team championship. Qualifying competition: China bt Hongkong, 5-0, New Zealand bt Australia 4-1; Thomas Cup: Men's team championship: Qualifying competition: Hongkong bt Australia 3-2; Singapore bt Philippines 5-1.

CRICKET

SHELL SHIELD: St George's: Jamaica 120 (J Etienne 4 for 17); Windward Islands 78 for eight. Match drawn.
GEORGETOWN: One-day match: Barbados 220 for 5 (38 overs); Guyana 221 for 9.

SKIING

SANTA CATERINA VALFURVA: Italian championships: Speed slalom: 1, O Toetsch; 2, R Grigis.

FOOTBALL

ARGENTINE LEAGUE: Independiente 5, Kimberley 1; Huracan 0, River 2; San Lorenzo de Almagro 5, Temperley 1.

GOLF

SINGAPORE: Women's Asian circuit Singapore Open: 218: Huang Yueh Chyn (Taiwan), 72,73,73. 219: T Ikebuchi (Jap) 73,77,69; T Fernando (Sri Lanka), 76,72,71.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to Resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	175	275	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	0
Good snow on all pistes							
Arosa	130	190	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-4
Good skiing on piste							
Courmayeur	230	350	Good	Pwdr	Good	Snow	-2
Perfect conditions everywhere							
Igls	50	150	Good	Heavy	Fair	Fine	-8
Worn patches on lower slopes							
Isola 2000	106	120	Good	Pwdr	Good	Snow	-3
Heavy snowfalls for 16 hours							
Klosters	100	180	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	-1
Good skiing everywhere							
Leysin	140	280	Good	Pwdr	Good	Snow	3
New light snow							
Mürren	155	230	Good	Pwdr	Good	Cloud	2
Excellent skiing everywhere							
La Plagne	175	320	Good	Pwdr	Good	Snow	0
Good skiing everywhere							
Seefeld	120	200	Good	Heavy	Good	Fine	-1
Upper slopes becoming icy							
St Anton	180	400	Good	Pwdr	Good	Fair	[illegible]
Thin layer of powder							
Tignes	180	275	Good	Varied	Good	Snow	-2

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from a tourist board:

GERMANY

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Berchtesgaden	40	–	Old sn	–	-2
Garmisch	70	–	Pwdr	–	-10
Mittenwald	50	–	Pwdr	–	-4
Oberjoch	174	–	Pwdr	–	-3
Oberstaufen	30	–	Pwdr	–	-2
Oberstdorf	71	–	Pwdr	–	-10

Champion to retire

Montreal (AFP) – Gerry Sorensen, of Canada, the Alpine skiing women's downhill world champion, said that she planned to retire at the end of the season. She came sixth in last week's Olympic downhill.

RACING: GRAND NATIONAL WINNER'S X-RAYS REVEAL NO BROKEN BONES

Ten Bears likely to confirm rich promise

By John Karter

There is never a dull moment when Connaught River is around. In his time he has bolted off the course in the middle of a race, frequently dug his heels in and refused to race altogether, and on one occasion started a riot. That was at Newbury in November when, in one of his more cooperative moods, he was beaten by a whisker by Permabos and was then awarded the race on the latter's disqualification, which resulted in angry punters storming the weighing room.

The transition from hurdles to fences can often stimulate such an animal into putting his best hoof forward and when Connaught River, who carries top weight in today's Castle Novices' Handicap Chase at Warwick, made his chasing debut at Newbury, it may not have set the world on fire but it was a pleasing effort to finish third to Areus.

Even if you give this most colourful of equine characters the benefit of the doubt and assume that he is fully reformed, it may be expecting too much of him to concede 11lb to Ten Bears, who ran a marvellous race in a top-class novice event at Ascot when fourth behind Cybrandian.

Winner of a small race at Lingfield Park on his previous outing, Ten Bears started at 20-1 for the Ascot race, but totally belied his odds. He looked the possible winner as the field turned into the straight and although he was unable to match the first three for pace, he finished no more than two lengths behind the winner.

John Francome should creep closer to the 1,000-winner mark by winning the afternoon's most valuable event, the Lower Swell Novices' Trial Hurdle on Emperor Charles. After winning well at Leicester in December, Emperor Charles was narrowly defeated at Cheltenham by Baz Bombati and then finished two lengths behind Triple Jump, who was receiving a lot of weight, on his return to the Midlands course. Through The Pawn, who finished third at Leicester, and who is as reliable a yardstick as a racehorse can be, Emperor Charles appears to have the beating of Homoela, who looks the main danger, and Master Boatman. The consistent mare, Rose Ravine, is also sure to run well.

Michael Dickinson, whose hunter Compton Lad should outclass the opposition in the Town of Warwick Foxhunters' Trophy Chase at Warwick, should also win the first division of the Leyburn Novices' Chase at Catterick Bridge with Brave George, who was in the lead when he fell at Fakenham on Friday. Dickinson will be hoping to lift himself even further out of his recent trough of gloom by winning the Brettanby Handicap Chase at the northern course with his Grand National hope, Cavity Hunter.

This 11-year-old ran most promisingly after a lay-off to finish fourth behind Honourable Man over this course and distance. Clearly he will be hard to catch, but the concession of 24lb to the recent easy Southwell winner, Personality Plus, may just be beyond him.



Jenny Pitman, trainer of Aintree hero, Corbiere

Corbiere on course for the National

Corbiere, the winner of the 1983 Grand National, is still on course for this year's race, Jenny Pitman, his trainer, said yesterday. Corbiere was injured in an 18th fence Melee during Saturday's Eider Chase at Newcastle, and connexions feared that he would miss the Grand National.

A delighted Mrs Pitman yesterday announced that all was well with her charge and that the Liverpool race was still the prime objective. Fears that the gelding had broken his seamoid bone proved unfounded, and after the results of his x-ray examination were known yesterday morning, Mrs Pitman said: "There are no broken bones. Corbiere has just badly bruised his near-fore and he is still very much on course for the Grand National. He will be on the easy list for seven to 10 days".

The reaction of William Hill, the bookmakers, was to re-introduce Corbiere into their ante-post bet at 20-1.

● Tolomeo, the winner of last years Budweiser Million at Arlington Park, Chicago, heads 46 British nominations at the first entry stage for the race on August 26.

O'Neill injured in fall at Huntingdon

John O'Neill cracked his left cheekbone in a fall at Huntingdon yesterday and will be out of action for a few days. O'Neill, who is five behind John Francome in the race for the jockeys' title was riding the strongly-fancied Anal when he came down at the fifth in the Ward Hill Top Table Hurdle. O'Neill who has had several hard falls recently, was still on the ground when his namesake Seamus O'Neill was weighing-in on the winner, Tom Sharp.

He looked white and very shaky as he was helped into a car that took him to Peterborough Hospital for an x-ray examination. The racecourse doctor said: "He was hit on the cheek by the horse's head, but he does not appear to be concussed".

Tom Sharp gained quotes of around 25-1 for the Triumph Hurdle after his impressive 12-length victory. The 7-1 shot headed Paris North four out then quickened clear to win unchallenged from the 9-4 joint favourite, Star of Ireland. Paris North, the other joint-favourite could finish only fifth.

Walter Wharton, owner-trainer of the winner, said: "Tom Sharp goes for the Triumph, there's a lot of improvement in him yet."

Also Cheltenham bound is Iden Green who made most of bottom weight in the Ward Hill Handicap Chase to score his fifth victory in a row. The winning trainer, Gardie Grissell, said: "He's in the Queen Mother Two Mile Chase and also the Grand Annual".

Monica Dickinson, the trainer's mother, expressed herself well pleased with Rathgorman, who finished third to Iden Green and who was racing for the first time in 11 months after cracking a bone in his elbow. Rathgorman's target once again is the Queen Mother Champion Chase.

Another rider hurt yesterday was Phil Tuck, who broke his nose in a fall from Welfare in the first division of the novices chase. Tuck is confident of being fit to ride Burrough Hill Lad for Jenny Pitman at Wincanton tomorrow. Tim Easterby has to give up the plum mount on Prominent King in the John Wade Hunters Chase to Ronnie Beggan, a fellow amateur rider.

Easterby was injured as he pulled up the 5-4 favourite Cue World before the second last flight in the preceding Harry Lane Memorial Handicap Hurdle won by Mr Denetop.

After being hampered on the far side of the course, Cue World broke down and as Easterby tried to stop him, the horse's head flew up and cracked him in the face. His father, Peter, immediatedly engaged Beggan for Prominent King and the Irishman enjoyed an armchair ride, the combination landing odds of 2-1 on by six lengths from What A Coup.

Henderson fined £500

Nick Henderson, the Lambourn trainer, was fined £500 by the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee today as the result of a positive dope test on his chaser, Krakar, after it won at Taunton in September.

A urine sample from the horse was found to contain the prohibited substances, phenylbutazone and oxyphenbutazone. After considering evidence, including a statement from Henderson, who was legally represented, the committee were unable to establish the source of the substances.

The committee imposed the minimum fine on Henderson under rule 53 and disqualified Krakar from the Taunton race, placing Prosper You Can first. Krakar ran five times witut winning after Taunton and was put down after breaking his neck in a fall

Brian Forsey, the Taunton trainer, was fined a total of £300 by the disceplinary committee after an inquiry into the ownership of the horse, Button Boy, when it ran in races between August 1982 and January 1983. The committee found that Forsey entered into an unregistered partnership concerning the horse with Mrs Janet Salter (£100 fine) when he was also the holder of a jockey's licence (£200 fine). No action was taken against Mrs Salter.



Warwick

GOING: soft

2.0 STUDLEY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (£756: 2m) (25 runners)

3	041001	MR SPRIG (D) (B) (Hatfields Farming) E Witts 7-12-3 (10 ex)	P Liddle 5
7	03-0004	CHARLEMOUNT (W Burndge jun) J Fox 7-11-6	N Hunter 5
8	324-111	SARAH'S VENTURE (Mrs J Jackson) C Horgan 5-11-6	L Mancini 5
9	000p-11	SWITCH OFF (D) (R Lewis) Mrs J Evans 6-11-4 (10 ex)	G Charles-Jones
10	2p11	MOSSY BELL (D) (P Gwyn) R Holder 4-11-3	N Coleman
11	0300	FLY GATE (Lady Lyell) J Webber 5-11-3	M Jenkins 5
12	000-100	MANDRIANO (R Walton) Mrs M Rimell 5-11-1	P Plumb 5
13	p03-00	FIFTH COLUMN (M Wilesmith) M Wilesmith 6-11-0	B Powell 5
15	300222	MELDON LADY (B) (G Taylor-Webber) T Hallett 6-10-13	L Bloomfield
17	0u4184	ENERGISE (Mrs J Newman) B Shaw 6-10-12	J Wathen 5
19	030p-0p	SNAPPER CREEK (John Gray 'Stone & Lime') O O'Neill 8-10-11	M Caswell
20	2u2000-	PACIFIC SPARKLER (Mrs A Cheshire) J Thorne 5-10-11	P Dever
21	140334	THE THUNDERER (D) (G Brunton) P M Taylor 4-10-11	T Williams 5
22	220-0	CELTIC WELL (Mrs K Hayward) P Cundell 5-10-11	Michael Rimmer 5
26	000-100	SNOWY BONDLAIR (A Newton) M Salaman 5-10-9	T Clark 5
28	0000	SKYBOOT (Mrs B Robinson) J Townson 5-10-8	–
29	f0-p0	GRANTSTOWN (Mrs C Williams) A Turnell 6-10-7	F Byrne 5
30	0-0400	PRINCE'S DRIVE (B Manning) B Palling 6-10-7	C Evans
31	1000u0	GAELIC TOUCH (M Avery) K White 7-10-6	P Finch 5
32	/0304-1	RUSTY FERN (D) (M Brown) R Brown 8-10-6 (10 ex)	D Chinn 5
33	p00p0f	ALDINGTON BOY (C Wheatley) C Trietline 6-10-4	P Birrane 5
35	000p-0-	BEST INTENT (B) (Lady Bailey) T Bailey 7-10-4	R Pusey
37	00/p0	MISS BELL (Mrs M Price) B Preece 8-10-2	W Knox 5
41	0000-u0	BOLD RODERICK (Mrs J Fraser) Mrs J Fraser 5-10-0	K Rees 5
44	044004	BATON MATCH (M Shone) M Chapman 4-10-0	K Burke 5

7-2 Mossy Bell, 4 Meldon Lady, 9-2 Sarah's Venture, 6 Rusty Fern, 8 Mr Sprig, 9 Switch Off, 10 The Thunderer, 12 Snowy Bondlair, 14 others.

1983: Bold Image 6-11-3 P Double (12-1) B Preece 24 ran

2.30 KNIGHTLOW HANDICAP CHASE (£1,507: 2m 4f) (13)

3	310-020	BALLYROSS (D) (Anne Duchess of Westminster) T Forster 13-11-7	H Davis
5	3pf403	GAMBLING PRINCE (CD) (Mrs G Jones) Mrs G Jones 11-11-5	J Burke
6	/00-112	APPLALTO (Miss N Carroll) R Armytage 10-11-4	A Webber
7	0f31-1f	COMBE HILL (D) (J Henderson) N Henderson 7-11-2	J Francome
8	112234	BASHFUL LAD (C,D) (Mrs F Parkes) M Oliver 9-11-1	–
9	fp4f-23	TOULOUSE (Mrs B Cobden) J Cobden 9-10-8	Philip Hobbs
10	023004	CHINRULLAH (Mrs R Eastwood) D Nicholson 12-10-9	Mr C P O'Toole 4
12	2/23320	KINDLED SPIRIT (B Clarke) W Mann 9-10-1	S J O'Neill
13	242-432	NICKLE MOPPETT (P Dresher) J Webber 7-10-0	G McCourt
15	00-443u	SHOTANG (CD) (T Wragg) R Perkins 9-10-0	R Crank
17	f-pf0p0	SYDNEY QUIN (D) (J A Taylor) C Trietline 12-10-0	M Caswell 7
19	0p0-p0p	DAVIOT (C) (B Arnold) J Thomas 10-10-0	M Williams
21	414002	INTOXICATED (T Nicholls) T Nicholls 10-10-0	P Scudamore

3 Nickle Moppett, 4 Combe Hill, 5 Applalto, 6 Ballyross, 8 Bashful Lad, Shotang, 10 Gambling Prince, 12 others.

1983: Shotang 8-10-1 C Grant (5-1) R Perkins 11 ran

3.0 LOWER SWELL NOVICE TRIAL HURDLE (£3,610: 2m 5f) (25)

1	410100	GOOD AS EVER (A Brown) G Kindersley 7-11-11	P Croucher 7
3	030214	MASTER BOATMAN (A P D Insulations) P M Taylor 5-11-11	A Carroll
4	341	BUCKO (Mrs P MacCann) J FitzGerald 7-11-8	M Dwyer
5	034-122	EMPEROR CHARLES (R E A Bott 'Wigmore') F Winter 7-11-8	J Francome
6	41010	ONLY FOR LOVE (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 5-11-8	P Scudamore
7	31	TALL TALE (Mrs L Dresher) J Webber 6-11-8	G McCourt
8	2313f	HOMEOLA (R Mann) Mrs M Rimell 5-11-5	
10	1212	ROSE RAVINE (C) (Mrs S Smart) F Walwyn 5-11-3	R Pusey 7
12	p03-p0	BEECHWOOD LAD (M Connell) M Connell 5-11-2	A Webber
14	000000-	COLUMBUS (Mrs V Shaw) R Shaw 7-11-2	–
15	0-04	FAMILY VENTURE (G Graham) G Graham 7-11-2	R Goldstein
16	243-000	FURZEN HILL (Ld Vestey) J King 5-11-2	Steve Knight
18	pp0p	MORGANS GOLD (P J Morgan) P Oliver 5-11-2	I Cox
19	334300	QUEENSWAY BOY (Queensway Securities) Miss A King 5-11-2	R Dickin
20	p-02000	RAJENS AIR (P Terry) Mrs B Waring 7-11-2	John Williams
21	/00-04p	SHACKLETON FLIER (R Shaw) R Shaw 10-11-2	–
22	0043	SIGN AGAIN (R Wright) J Fox 6-11-2	S Jobar
23	320/004	ST DAVID'S DAY (R Cottrell) B Palling 6-11-2	C Evans 7
25	0000	STIKIT'S BROTHER (Mrs P Blackburn) Miss S Morris 6-11-2	M O'Halloran
26	030-432	WORK MATE (Mrs I Stewart-Brown) G Pritchard-Gordon 5-11-2	S Smith-Eccles
27	0pp-00	FULL OF LOVE (W Lee) Mrs A Lee 5-10-11	C Mann 4
29	00	TWILGO (Capt R Higgs) J Fox 9-10-11	M Coyle
31	0	BANDELERO (A Holmes) R Holder 4-10-7	P Richards
32	up0004	BEDFORD ROW (B) (I Goldstein) M Chapman 4-10-7	K Burke 7
33	033402	FRIENDLY HENRY (H Ford) H Ford 4-10-7	R Crank

11-4 Bucko, 100-30 Emperor Charles, 4 Rose Ravine, 5 Homeola, 7 Work Mate, 8 Only For Love, 12 Master Boatman, 14 others.

1983: Queens Ride 5-11-8 P Tuck (13-2) Mrs J Pitman 21 ran

3.30 TOWN OF WARWICK FOXHUNTERS TROPHY HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,117: 3m 4f 300yd) (15)

1	/113p1-	COMPTON LAD (CD) (R McAlpine) M W Dickinson 11-12-7	Mr R J Beggan 4
4	2p0410-	THE WRESTLER (B Straight) B Straight 14-12-7	Dr G Straight 7
5	234200-	BOBBY'S FOX (P Mann) P Mann 11-12-2	M Mann 7
7	p10-0-	MAES GWYN (A Brown) A Brown 12-12-2	A Brown 7
8	12u00-	MR MOLE (Mrs S Gill) Mrs S Gill 9-12-2	NON-RUNNER
9	1313tp-	RUGY (R Weaving) R Weaving 8-12-2	Miss C Saunders 7
10	3-0p004	BRIDGE ASH (J Johnson) J Johnson 11-11-11	J Johnson 4
11	21	ROCKIN BERRY (A Baylis) A Baylis 9-11-11	T Jackson 7
12	p3-	APETA'S SUN (A Spooner) A Spooner 8-11-9	Mrs C Elliot 7
13	30fp-4	BLUE BEANS (B Rendell) B Rendell 9-11-9	A J Wilson
14	004f0-3	GAY TAB (Mrs R Brooks) Mrs R Brooks 11-11-9	C Brooks 7
16	3p3p/p-	HONEY JUMP (M Keenor) M Keenor 11-11-9	M Keenor 7
17	00p034/	PRINCELY CALL (Mrs G Jones) Mrs G Jones 10-11-9	N Jones 7
18	222424-	TALON (B Munro-Wilson) B Munro-Wilson 9-11-9	B Munro-Wilson
19	00/pf	TRUE MEMBER (P Norman) K Bishop 10-11-4	A Jones 7

Evens Compton Lad, 4 Rockin Berry, 6 Talon, 8 Rugy, 10 The Wrestler, 12 Bridge Ash.

1983: Compton Lad 10-12-7 D Browne (4-9 fav) M W Dickinson 15 ran

4.0 CASTLE NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (£1,340: 2m) (18)

1	11r433	CONNAUGHT RIVER (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 5-11-12	P Scudamore
4	0f2f14	TEN BEARS (D) (Air Commodore C Kunkler) T M Jones 8-11-1	G Charles-Jones 7
5	004022	WING VELVET (M Spedding) J Wright 8-10-13	K Mooney
6	b2f00f	WEALTHY (M Low) M Scudamore 8-10-10	Mr M Low 4
7	000422	GLEN MOY (M Barraclough) M Barraclough 9-10-10	S McNeill
8	410-00f	SYMPATIQUE (P Hennen) Miss E Snayd 6-10-10	V McKevitt
9	0233p1	CAL MAL (K Dunn) K Dunn 6-10-10 (10 ex)	Mr P Schofield 4
10	4p40f1	SIR LESTER (J Thomas) J Thomas 8-10-10 (10 ex)	A Griffiths 4
11	20f002	MILANESSA (F Williams) R Armytage 7-10-9	A Webber
13	f0/0p00	HUDSON'S BAY (Mrs T Ponsonby) N Henderson 11-10-8	J Francome
14	04244p	WHITTINGTON (Mrs M Easton) Mrs M Easton 6-10-8	Mr A Jones 7
15	04f21f	ELMBROOK (D) (Mrs P Joynes) J Spearing 8-10-8	R Dickin
16	00-0300	DERWENT KING (R Croft) Mrs J Croft 7-10-6	J Suthern
17	f04024	POSTDYNE (B Clarke) W Mann 8-10-6	R Mann
18	002-000	FLYING MISTRESS (T Bell) J Webber 8-10-5	G McCourt
22	pu0000	ALBION PRINCE (B) (P Rodford) P Rodford 10-10-0	C Gray 4
23	34pp-40	SENRAB (C Barnes) J Old 8-10-0	
25	0f401	ROUGH WIND (C Loggin) C Loggin 8-10-0	J Barlow

5-2 Ten Bears, 3 Cal Mal, 9-2 Connaught River, 6 Hudson's Bay, 8 Elmbrook, 10 Wing Velvet, 12 Sir Lester, 14 others.

1983: Capvista 8-11-8 P Warner (8-1) J Spearing 16 ran

4.30 BANBURY HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,486: 2m) (15)

1	10-	BARRETTS HILL (P Davies) P Bailey 8-11-13	P Croucher 7
3	11-0000	ISHKOMANN (D) (Mrs J Warren) J Spearing 5-11-11	R Linley
4	010101	HARFORD (CD) (Monmore Auto Spares Ltd) B McMahon 7-10-10 (7 ex)	R Crank
5	42/0-p2	YORK COTTAGE (D) (C Hitchings) C Hitchings 7-11-5	R Hyett
7	000-001	MOLLINGTON (CD) (D Taylor) J Webber 5-11-1 (7 ex)	G McCourt
11	303000	QUICKTHORN (B) (J Yarnold) R Hartop 8-10-7	J Barlow
12	004/310	RIVA BE GOOD (D) (M Fry) O O'Neill 7-10-7	M Caswell 7
13	4014/00	A TUNEFUL SONG (J Cobden) J Cobden 8-10-7	Philip Hobbs
14	fu3031	MORNING LINE (D) (G Brunton) P M Taylor 7-10-13 (7 ex)	B Powell 7
16	010000	MOUNTAIN MAN (D) (Mrs Y Allsop) R Brazington 8-10-1	C Jones
19	000300	CANTABILE (D) (Lady S Brooke) Lady S Brooke 5-10-0	J Bryan
20	022204	TOP GOLD (D) (C Wright) H O'Neill 5-10-0	NON-RUNNER
21	320/0-p	BUCHANAN (Arkle Office Supplies) M Chapman 9-10-0	K Burke 7
22	001/000	COLONEL MAD (D) (B) (M Lilley) J Spearing 5-10-0	A Webb
25	30p/p-p	TAJARAMA (D) (Mrs J Gribble) T Hallett 7-10-0	L Bloomfield 4

7-2 Mollington, 9-2 Ishkomann, Harford, 11-2 York Cottage, Riva Be Good, 6 Morning Line, 10 Barretts Hill, 14 Quickthorn, 16 others.

1983: Brooks Law 8-9-13 L Bloomfield (25-1) D Bloomfield 23 ran

Warwick selections

By John Karter

2.0 Sarah's Venture. 2.30 Applato. 3.0 Emperor Charles. 3.30 Compton Lad. 4.0 Ten Bears. 4.30 Ishkomann.

Catterick Bridge

GOING: good to firm (inspection 7.30am)

1.15 LEYBURN NOVICE CHASE ((Div I: £1,238: 2m) (15 runners)

1	041014	GREEN MENELEK (CD) (W Lockey) J Charlton 8-11-11	R Earnshaw
2	0	BURN-BUCK (H Gill) H Gill 6-11-9	–
4	040-pf0	ALLI-RECO (F Watson) F Watson 6-11-2	–
5	00-0080	ANOTHER WAGER (Hitchins for Kitchens Ltd) R Fisher 7-11-2	
7	2212f/u	BRAVE GEORGE (P Cowell) M W Dickinson 7-11-2	G Bradley
10	401000	CLICKHAM LAD (M Morley) N Chamberlain 6-11-2	B Storey 4
11	233	CONN THE COBBLER (Midland Racing Ltd) D Moorhead 6-11-2	A Broughan 7
17	0u0-3fu	GOLDEN TY (V Hall) J Parkes 6-11-2	R Balfour 7
20	0-00	INDIAN MAIZE (Lady C Renwick) Lady C Renwick 11-11-2	–
26	2210000	ON LEAVE (BF) (R Craze) A Scott 7-11-2	R Lamb
27	01-0002	RAG DANCER (Mrs M Fletcher) C Elsey 7-11-2	P A Charlton
33	440043	VISCOUNT (B) (Mrs V Thompson) V Thompson 10-11-2	Mr M Thompson 7
37	031212	ORP BALTIC (D) (P Bennett) E Alston 5-11-0	M Brisbourne
39	111004	CASAL ROYALE (D) (D Thompson) D McCain 6-10-11	K Doolan 7
42	0p0-0	WESTWOOD BLZE (H Taylor) W Storey 6-10-11	E McIntyre

1983: Abandoned – frost

2 Orp Baltic, 3 Brave George, 5 Rag Dancer, 7 Green Menelek, 10 Another Wager, 12 Casal Royale, 14 On Leave, 20 others.

1.45 GRETA BRIDGE HANDICAP CHASE (£1,226: 2m) (5)

2	113301	SEA MERCHANT (CD) (T McDonagh) W A Stephenson 7-11-7	R Lamb
4	130123	FOR GOD (D) (BF) (Ld Cadogan) N Crump 7-10-8	C Hawkins
6	311323	VEILED CITY (D) (F Storey) F Storey 8-10-0	B Storey 4
8	u3-23pf	SAUCY MOON (CD) (Miss M Furness) R Tate 9-10-0	–
9	13-u030	CAHERTY (Mrs J Gledson) Mrs J Gledson 11-10-0	–

11-10 Sea Merchant, 15-8 For Good, 11-2 Veiled City, 14 Saucy Moon, 20 Caherty.

2.15 RIPON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£675: 2m) (23)

3	200440/	ANDY'S GIFT (Denys Smith) Denys Smith 9-12-4	D Thompson
6	3310-00	VITINGO (D) (F Barlow) D Yeoman 5-11-8	K Jones
8	024-220	GUN (B) (J Simpson) D Yeoman 7-11-3	C Bell
9	22/400	HEADMERE (K Kelly) R Johnson 8-11-0	A McGlynn
10	00/20-0	LINATEA (CD) (Mrs S Austin) P Curtis 9-11-0	–
12	0-042p0	FALDOR (B) (D) (J Mitchell) J Mitchell 7-10-12	D Johnston
15	30p030/	NORTHEND (Mrs H Ellerby) M Ellerby 8-10-11	K Teelan
18	3000	MISS SINCLAIR (Sinclair Developments) M Lambert 4-10-8	A Fogarty
20	10-3203	MY HABAT (CD) (F Watson) F Watson 5-10-7	J Duggan
21	13-0000	THE BEGINNING (D) (Northumbria Leisure) W Storey 6-10-7	–
22	03304-0	MAGIC ABROAD (J Whetstone) C Mackenzie 6-10-7	G Byrne
24	304020	TUMBLE JIM (Herondale Ltd) M Naughton 5-10-7	Susan Kersey
28	00-0234	JULIE SIMONE (T Kersey) T Kersey 9-10-5	P Corrigan
32	004020	MOSQUITO RIVER (M Hughes) B Richmond 7-10-5	M Hill
33	30-0	MARTON BOY (Mrs E Wiles) S Wiles 6-10-5	J Gorman
34	0-00020	DENETOP LADY (F Musgrave) F Musgrave 7-10-5	–
35	3-00014	PUNTA BRAVA (D) (Mrs O Fowler) J Fowler 10-10-5	R Lawson
36	00030p	WARREN GORSE (CD) (R Brown) S Avery 10-10-5	A Welsh
40	00000	PALACE OF LOVE (C Flear) H Fleming 4-10-5	–
41	0/00	ALLIED OLDHAM (D Fogg) S B Avery 7-10-5	–
42	004upf	SEE ANDY (F Coton) F Coton 7-10-5	–
43	000	PRIESTCROFT BOY (C Norman) Mrs G Reveley 11-10-5	A Lang
44	02200	WALDRON HILL (G Thomoson) R Allan 4-10-5	–

3 My Habat, 4 Gun, 5 Vitingo, 13-2 Julie Simone, 9 Tumble Jim, 12 Punta Brava, 14 Faldor, Miss Sinclair, 16 others.

2.45 BRETTANBY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,236: 3m 300yd) (9)

1	1f/00-4	CAVITY HUNTER (F Tyldesley) M W Dickinson 11-11-10	G Bradley
3	144211/	DON'T FORGET (J Hanson) J Hanson 10-11-3	C Pimlott
6	4001p1	PERSONALITY PLUS (D Pickering) W Francis 8-10-0 (4 ex)	–
7	02-4410	WORTHY HEIRESS (CD) (E Robson) E Robson 9-10-0	–
8	11-2000	SHARPSHOD (CD) (BF) (Frost Garden Centre) J FitzGerald 8-10-0	P Tuck
10	311p43	SPRING CHANCELLOR (Mrs M Britton) W A Stephenson 9-10-0	K Jones
13	033304	SALKELD (Ld Zetland) N Crump 12-10-0	C Hawkins
14	1-0p020	TROJAN WALK (CD) (G Mason) Miss C Mason 13-10-0	R Earnshaw
16	304-20f	MORNING CHEER (J Norton) J Norton 10-10-0	J Duggan

7-4 Cavity Hunter, 100-30 Personality Plus, 9-2 Spring Chancellor, 6 Salkeld, 10 Worthy Heiress, 12 Trojan Walk, 18 others

3.15 WENSLEY NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £658: 2m) (21)

1	000210	NERO WOLF (D) (T Webster) O Brennan 7-12-0	M Brennan
2		AFRICAN PEARL (D Hodgson) J S Wilson 6-11-4	NON RUNNER
3	0-	AMANTISS (J Hanson) J Hanson 6-11-4	C Pimlott
4	04	BETTABET GERAGHTY (M. F. Gerraghty 'Racing' Ltd) Miss S Hall 6-11-4	R Earnshaw
6	0	BLUE SLAVE (H Gill) H Gill 6-11-4	–
7	0-0	COOL THOMAS (H Rebanks) H Rebanks 6-11-4	–
11	00	KING'S PARDON (Mrs D Stokes) Mrs A Hewitt 7-11-4	–
15	20	MUSIC BE MAGIC (N Mason) G Richards 5-11-4	N Doughty
17	043	SIR ROB (Mrs J Charlton) R Robinson 5-11-4	P Tuck
19	0	WALK ALONG (Mrs V Haigh) W Haigh 5-11-4	A Brown
20	0000	BRIGHT IMP (R Bethell) R Bethell 5-10-13	A Dickman
21	0/0-0	CRAIGIE WAY (A Barbour) A Barbour 7-10-13	Mr R Robinson 7
22	210p0	DANCING NYMPH (Quaghan of Oldham) J FitzGerald 5-10-13	R O'Leary
24	0	PRECIOUS SUE (S Calvert) R Whitaker 5-10-13	A McGlynn 7
26	0	CHI MAI (J Norton) J Norton 4-10-8	J Duggan 7
27	0	HIGH RENOWN (Mrs J Ramsden) T Barron 4-10-8	R Lamb
29		REPITCH (Miss R Gray) R Gray 4-10-8	S Charlton
31	00	TORONTO STAR (B Tolley) A Potts 4-10-8	C Hawkins
32	2u0004	TOT (T Gledson) Denys Smith 4-10-8	C Grant
33	0	JENDOR (Mrs V Thompson) V Thompson 4-10-3	Mr M Thompson 7
34	0	MEHRAGAN (J Underwood) M Lambert 4-10-3	P A Charlton

9-4 Bettabet Geraghty, 7-2 Music Be Magic, 4 Sir Rob, 11-2 Nero Wolf, 8 Dancing Nymph,

3.45 LEYBURN NOVICE CHASE (Div II: £1,231: 2m) (14)

3	f230u3	SUPER SOLO (D) (A. M. Davidson 'PD' Ltd) T Craig 8-11-9	C Grantton
6	/0300-p	BOX OF TRICKS (T Metcalfe) D Metcalfe 9-11-2	M Pepper 4
8	p0-0040	CAROUSER (Steelflex Products 'York' Ltd) J Doyle 7-11-2	S Oulden 7
12	/042-0f	DUKES GOLD (BF) (J Slicough) G Richards 7-11-2	N Doughty
18	00-00p3	GRANGE MINSTREL (R Spicer) R Spicer 7-11-2	–
19		HALION (W Manners) W A Stephenson 8-11-2	R Lamb
21	ff/u-00	JESTING SPIRIT (T Bell) D Lee 9-11-2	–
22	p04-00u	JOSMOLI (B) (Miss T Law) C Mackenzie 7-11-2	–
24	p2-3000	LYNE MILL (D Swindlehurst) D Swindlehurst 10-11-2	–
29	/303-23	SEA CAMPIO (Mrs J Gledson) Mrs J Gledson 9-11-2	–
30	00-300f	SECRET MINSTREL (I Sadler) J Parkes 7-11-2	R Balfour 7
31	104/000	SINGALONG SAM (D Abdale) F Watson 7-11-2	–
34	040042	WESTWOOD DEAL (R Illingworth) M Naughton 7-11-2	J A Harris
35	10f041	BLACKFEET (A McInally) J S Wilson 5-11-0	S Charlton

4-9 Blackfeet, 11-2 Super Solo, 8 Secret Minstrel, 12 Westwood Deal, 16 Dukes Gold.

4.15 WENSLEY NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £681: 2m) (21)

1		ARCHIMBOLDO (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 6-11-4	K Jones
3	0p-00	BLUE TARQUIN (Col Sir R Houldsworth) J FitzGerald 5-11-4	R O'Leary
9	00	MARSHALL OSTHOFF (P Edwicker) T Craig 5-11-4	M Ennis
11	4440	NIGHT PEARL (E Stockdale) A Smith 5-11-4	A Dickman
13	0	SAGE HAWK (Miss R Gray) R Gray 5-11-4	S Charlton
16	2	THE LANGHOLM DYER (Edinburgh Woollen Mill) G Richards 5-11-4	N Doughty
18	000/	VINTAGE BOTTLE (A Corner) A Corner 8-11-4	–
22	0	COTTAGE STYLE (M McDonagh) W A Stephenson 5-10-13	R lamb
24	0-4020p	SUPER GAYLE (B) (W Robinson) R Fisher 5-10-13	
26	0	TRACK SECRET (P Shaw) E Weymes 5-10-0	C Pimlott
27	000	AUCKLAND EXPRESS (Denys Smith) Denys Smith 4-10-8	C Grant
28	000	BIONDONI (B) (A Duffield) J McNaughton 4-10-8	–
30	0	EXCAVATOR BOY (B) (P Goodwin) Mrs M Nesbitt 4-10-8	M Pepper 4
31		HABIT ROUGE (R Ogden) J Hanson 4-10-8	–
32	00	HALEWOOD VINTNER (J Halewood) D McCain 4-10-8	K Doolan 7
33	000p	HARBOUR MUSIC (B) (G Dand) T Craig 4-10-8	D Nolan
35	0	MOFFAT (G Morley) H Wharton 4-10-8	S Youlden 7
36	02302	MUSIC SEASON (BF) (P Alexander) T Fairhurst 4-10-8	C Fairhurst
37	0	REMAINDER LINE (G Cooper) T Kersey 4-10-8	D Wilkinson
38		TAXODIUM (Mrs V Thompson) V Thompson 4-10-8	Mr M Thompson 7
39	00	CHIKALA (B) (Mrs M Pick) Miss S Hall 4-10-3	C Hawkins

4-6 The Langholm Dyer, 4 Music Season, 5 Night Pearl, 10 Blue Tarquin, 16 Cottage Style.

4.45 PETER MARSH STAKES (Flat race: £948: 2m) 23)

9		KING OF HEARTS (Mrs A Paterson) M Lambert 5-11-10	A Charlton
10	0-	MIDSUMMER SPECIAL (L Palmer) C Mackenzie 6-11-10	Mr Sherwood
12		SALGAR (C Coxon) M W Dickinson 5-11-10	Mr S Sherwood
13		STRETCH OUT (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 6-11-10	K Jones
14		TUDOR TRADE (G Cooper) T Kersey 5-11-10	J Middleton 7
17		OUR LOUISE (I Davidson) A Scott 5-11-5	Mr D McCullough 7
19		USHERETTE (Mrs J Benson) Miss M Benson 5-11-5	Mr T Reed 7
20		BYWAYS BOY (W Hackett) W Hackett 4-11-0	–
21		CAPLEY WOOD (Mrs A Whitehead) D Thom 4-11-0	–
23		CELTIC RANGER (C Simpson) G Lockerbie 4-11-0	J Berkley 7
24		DONALABOO (R Wilkinson) J S Wilson 4-11-0	Mr J McLaren
25		DOVER (R Spencer) M H Easterby 4-11-0	T Easterby
26		GRAEME'S GEM (R Cleland) R Fisher 4-11-0	Mr M Meagher 7
28		HOLME SEAL (G BArker) R Woodhouse 4-11-0	A Wilson 7
29		HUNG VERDICT (A Sackington) R Gray 4-11-0	–
31		PORTSIDE (B Otter) J FitzGerald 4-11-0	M Grassick 7
32		ROMAN DUSK (W Lockey) J Charlton 4-11-0	Mr P Dennis 7
33		ROYAL TATTOO (J Barr) Mrs J Barr 4-11-0	–
35		WHAT A FLARE (Mrs P Bourne) A Davison 4-11-0	G Diplock 7
37		GREY LIL (J McDonald) R Allan 4-10-9	NON RUNNER
38		MASKWOOD (M Griese) Mrs M Nesbitt 4-10-9	mr G Harker 7
39		NELLIE MOON (P Lamyman) Mrs S Lamyman 4-10-9	–
40		RUM (G Reed) C Thornton 4-11-0	J D Davies 7

11-8 Salgar, 9-4 Portside, 5 Graeme's Glen, 8 King Of Hearts, 14 Dover, 16 others.

Catterick selections

By John Karter

1.15 Brave George. 1.45 Sea Merchant. 2.15 My Habat. 2.45 Personality Plus. 3.15 Bettabet Geraghty. 3.45 Blackfeet. 4.15 The Langholm Dyer. 4.45 Salgar.

Huntingdon results

Going: Good

2.0 STEVENAGE HURDLE (Div I: novices: £907: 2m 200yd)

CAWARRA LAD b h by Sovereign Spitfire – Spanish Coin (Mrs M Holden) 5-11-3 M Perrett (13-2) 1
Just Alick D Dutton (7-1) 2
Tough Customer S Smith Eccles (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £7.20. Places: £2.50, £2.60, £1.10. DF: £22.60. CSF: £49.82. C James at Great Shefford. 3l, 2l. Wojo (9-4 fav) 4th. 14 ran. NR: Music Gal, Kingsbourg Lad.

2.30 JIM HOLDEN CHASE (novice handicap: £1,890: 3m 100yd)

BEN SPARTAN b g by Spartan General – Carnival Candy (Cpt H Lochore) 11-10-13 S Smith Eccles (4-1) 1
Closeen King J Bryan (20-1) 2
Ice Hill S Shilston (50-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £4.10. Places: £1.50, £3.20, £3.90. DF: £100.00. CSF: £86.09. TRICAST: £3,087.68. N Henderson at Lambourn. Hd, 25l. Cold Blood (10-1) 4th. Master Terrace (15-8 fav). 10 ran.

3.0 WARD HILL TOP TABLE HURDLE (4-y-o: £3,319)

TOM SHARP b g by Martinas – Pralgo (W Wharton) 10-7 S J O'Neill (7-1) 1
Star of Ireland S Smith Eccles (9-4 jt fav) 2
Purple Flash S McNeill (50-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £8.90. Places: £2.20, £1.10, £6.80. DF: £6.70. CSF: £22.45. W Wharton at Melton Mowbray. 12l, 8l. Miss Malinowski (20-1) 4th. Paris North (9-4 jt-fav). 8 ran.

3.30 WARD HILL CHASE (handicap: £1,966: 2m 100yds)

IDEN GREEN gr g by Gaberdine – Do Das (P Hannaford) 7-10-0 M Perrett (5-4 fav) 1
Kathies Lad S Smith Eccles (6-4) 2
Rathgorman G Bradley (7-2) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.90. DF: £1.30. CSF: £3.12. D Grissell at Heathfield. 8l, 12l. 3 ran.

4.0 WARD HILL HURDLE (handicap: £1,808: 2m 4f)

CLAUDIUS CROZET b h by Halo – Ima Roan (G Huffer) 5-9-1 J McLaughlin (2-1 fav) 1
Alfie Dickins R Rowe (7-1) 2
Ling P Scudamore (8-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £3.10. Places: £1.50, £1.50, £2.400. DF: £15.80. CSF: £18.56. Tricast: £90.42. G Huffer at Newmarket. 10l, ¾l. Ben Ewan (14-1) 4th 13 ran.

4.30 STEVENAGE HURDLE (Div II: novices: £893: 2m 200yd)

CENTROLINE b h by High Line – Centro (A Bingley) 5-11-2 J R Davies (evens fav) 1
Faithful Don B Reilly (5-1) 2
Rhefflanosa S Johnson (25-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.20. Places: £1.10, £2.00, £5.60. DF: £5.80. CSF: £7.19. C A Bell at Malton. 4l, ¾l. Nikiforos (12-1) 4th. 15 ran.
PLACEPOT: £55.90.

Sedgefield

Going: GOOD

1.15 TOW LAW CHASE (Div I: novices: £727: 3m 500yd)

VENTURER ch g by Random Shot – Scoupland (J Jefferson) 7-11-4 A Brown (8-1) 1
Hopeful Saint R Earnshaw (40-5 fav) 2
Palm Cross P Barry (5-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £7.70. Places: £2.40, £1.80, £3.20. DF: £10.40. CSF: £16.15. J Jeffersonat Malton. 2l, 15l. Raise Your Glass (33-1) 4th. 15 ran.

1.45 HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (novices: £1,028: 2m)

VITRIOLIC b g by Candy Cane — Leonora's Legend (R Hunter) 5-10-7 Mr M Meacher (5-4 fav) 1
Polly's Pal A Stringer (15-2) 2
Air Space A Broughan (20-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.90. Places: £1.30, £1.80, £5.10. DF: £4.60. CSF: £10.77. R Fisherat Ulverston. 8l, 3l. Secret House (12-1) 4th. 17 ran. NR: Snipe Shooter

2.15 HARRY LANE HURDLE (£1,346: 2m 4f)

MR DENETOP b g by Pongee – Miss Denetop (F Musgrave) 6-10-7 Mr P J Dunn (12-1) 1
Not Easy C Pimlott (20-1) 2
Tracadera P A Farrell (20-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £14.30. Places: £2.70, £3.00, £6.50. DF: £67.60. CSF: £211.88. Tricast: £4,241.87. M Musgrave at Hemon-The-Hole. 20l, 2l. Louviess (10-1) 4th. Cue World (5-4) fav. 17 ran.

2.45 JOHN WADE HUNTER CHASE (amateurs: £935: 3m 600yd)

PROMINENT KING b g by Prominer – Christmas Gift (T Easterby) 12-12-2 R Beggan (1-2 fav) 1
What A Coup Miss G Minor (10-1) 2
Rambling Buck J Griffith (5-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.40. Places: £1.20, £2.10, £1.60. DF: £4.40. CSF: £7.81. M H Easterby at Great Habton. 6l, dist. Rigorous (25-1) 4th. 12 ran.

3.15 BRANCEPETH CHASE (handicap: £1,181: 2m 4f)

WENDY'S WHIZZ KID b h by Tycoon II – Wendiforous (D Todd) 8.10.12 R O'Leary (33-1) 1
Jimmy Chips B Storey (10-1) 2
Stand Back R Lamb (4-1 jt fav) 3
TOTE: Win: £34.40. Places: £7.80, £1.60, £2.60. DF: £2.80 (winner or 2nd with any other horse). CSF: £314.85. Tricast: £1,476.72. D Todd at Wragby. 2½l, 1½l. Sunlit River 4th. Grandogan (4-1 jt fav). 14 ran. NR: Old Hoad, Crawfordjohn.

3.45 TOW LAW CHASE (Div II: novices: £726: 3m 600yd)

LAST DEAL b g by Raise You Ten – Cherry Tart (C Murphy) 8-11-4 R Earnshaw (11-10 fav) 1
La Boeuf R Lamb (7-2) 2
Succeeded Mr P J Dun (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.20. Places: £1.10, £2.30, £2.70. DF: £4.20. CSF: £8.11. M Dickinson at Harewood. 12l, 8l. Kirkby Lad (50-1) 4th. 14 ran.

4.15 BILLINGHAM HURDLE (4-y-o novices: £576: 2m 4f)

ROYAL OPPORTUNITY b g by Royal Palace – La Mome (R Dods) 11-0 C Grant (16-1) 1
Finale Sept M Pepper (6-4) 2
Meltegen A Brown (6-4 jt fav) 3
TOTE: Win: £19.40. Places: £5.20, £1.10, £1.40. DF: £26.80. CSF: £43.16. R Dods at Piercebridge. ¾l, ½l. Hatteras (11-2) 4th. 13 ran. NR: Better Builder, Proud Outlook.
PLACEPOT: £12.45.

HOCKEY

Mitchell (Cambridge) left and Robinson (Oxford) dispute possession (Photo: Ian Stewart)

Oxford unable to cancel out early goals by Cambridge

By Sydney Friskin

Oxford 1
Cambridge 2

Cambridge won the university match, sponsored by Guardian Royal Exchange Insurance, for the third year in succession by beating Oxford on a cold afternoon at Lord's yesterday. Oxford's last success was achieved in 1979, when they won 6-1, and the best result achieved by them since then was a 2-2 draw in 1981.

This was not one of the best matches in recent times by any means and the slowness of the pitch, particularly near the circle, was no help. The players tended to misjudge the pace of the ball in this area, but the conditions did not excuse the early uncertainty in Oxford's defence.

Although Oxford raised their game in the second half, they could not cancel out the two goals they had conceded before the interval. It was reasonable to expect a revival after they had scored, but the initiative went back into the hands of Cambridge.

Oxford looked slightly sharper in the early exchanges but Cambridge captialized on the first short corner, with Dodds scoring at the second attempt in the seventeenth minute. Four minutes later Makin, the Cambridge captain, took a free hit near the sideline, picked up a return pass from Dodds, and raced through to score with an angular shot, the Oxford goalkeeper having made a vain attempt to save with his stick.

Oxford's best response before half-time was a short corner in the twenty-ninth minute, from which the Cambridge goalkeeper saved from Monks, who was permitted a second shot. This time the ball whistled past a post. Their spirits were revived in the fifth minute of the second half after a good effort on the right wing by Keohane. He overcame the frustration of having a shot deflected and scored from the long corner which followed.

Oxford could not force a single short corner in this period, against the five earned by Cambridge, who missed a great chance of increasing their lead in the twenty-third minute. Rush, who shot through a gap on the left, was impeded by the goalkeeper inside the circle and the result inevitably was a penalty stroke, fom which Makin had the misfortune to put his shot against the crossbar.

OXFORD: R C Niblett (Charterhouse and New College); P N Brooks (Tasmania University and St John's), A G Sumnall (Perse and St Edmund Hall) sub: D N Sanders (Kingston GS and New College), P J O Rudden (Magdalen CS and Hertford), T J Monks (Tasmania University and St John's, captain), R J McIntyre (Kingston GS and Christ Church), P Keohane (Chatham House and Lincoln), A S Hurn (Natal University and St Edmund Hall), C I Quirk (Mill Hill and University), M N Robinson (Framlingham and University), J Chester (Ipswich and Lincoln).
CAMBRIDGE: P A Barr (Huddersfield New College and Queen's); I G Ashby (Burnham GS and Selwyn), R M Mitchell (Felsted and St John's), N R H Dodds (Millfield and St John's), P T Coots (Portsmouth GS and Magdalene), R G Miles (Kingston GS and Trinity), G D Harper (Abingdon and St John's), C J Makin (Appleton Hall and Fitzwilliam, captain), A Hill (T P Riley and Emmanuel), I E W Sanders (Cheltenham and St John's), R A J Rush (Culford and Caius).
Umpires: R C Beatty and J E Anderson (Midland Counties).

● The second round ties in the hockey club championship, to be played on March 4, have been drawn.

DRAW: Blueharts v Cheltenham; Fareham v Reading; Bedford v RAF Strike Command; South Nottingham v East Grinstead; Chesterfield v Blackheath; Southgate v Preston; Pickwick v St Albans; Gorecourt v Hounslow.

Chris Law chases one of the few sailing titles to elude him

Olympic prospector's last chance for gold

For Chris Law, the Olympic yachting regatta at Long Beach will realistically be his last chance to win a gold medal. Now aged 31 and in Britain's yachting squad for the fourth time, he cannot envisage giving up yet another four years to such an esoteric form of sailing. In 1972 he was still improving, but by 1976 he was one of the best Finn sailors in the world and won the class world championship in Australia. Yet he failed to win the "sudden death" trials to select the British representative and had to be content with going to Montreal as reserve helmsman.

The same system will be employed again this year for the Windglider, 470, Flying Dutchman and Tornado classes. The Finn, Star and Soling, however, will consider three separate regattas, which theoretically ought to be a better way of selecting the right crew. Law is now campaigning a Soling and the three critical meetings for him will be at San Remo and Hyères in April, followed by Britain's national Olympic regatta at Weymouth in May.

Bitter decision

While Law's prospects for a medal looked good in 1976, they were even better in 1980. Another four years of dedication and sacrifice had brought him to the peak of fitness and ability, but then came the bitter decision of the Royal Yachting Associations' Afghanistan-inspired boycott, taken without consulting the competitors. It still rankles.

At about this time Law was invited to join the Lionheart syndicate in the 1980 challenge for the America's Cup. But Games and the challenge overlapped, so it was impossible to do both. Law elected to stay with his Finn, partly to continue his planned programme and partly to nurture a vain hope that the boycott might be called off.

His efforts were not entirely unrewarded. Only a few weeks before the Games, he was a convincing winner of the Finn European championship in Helsinki. It was Esko Rechardt, from Finland who then crossed the Baltic to win the Finn gold medal at Tallinn.

In spite of this considreable disappointment, Law's Olympic aspirations were far from destroyed and within a few months he was back on the international circuit, this time with a Soling. Like the Finn, this is a class requiring tactical ability rather than sheer boat speed, but the two are world apart. The Finn is a single-handed dinghy, whereas the Soling is a three-man keelboat, the largest of the seven Olympic classes.

After years of solitary sailing, Law now has to consider two other people. The search for the perfect crew has been long and thorough, temperament ashore and afloat being as important as sailing ability. Both crew positions have seen changes, but with Edward Leask now in the middle of the boat and Jerry Richards in the bow, the mix is at last to his satisfaction.

Promising results

While not yet reaching the same level of consistency in the Soling as he had in the Finn, he has achieved some promising results. He won the national championship at the first attempt in 1981, followed by an encouraging first place in the pre-Olympic regatta at Long Beach in 1982. Last year, however, there was an apparent relapse, when he finished only seventh at Long Beach and tenth in the world championship at San Francisco.

There was a perfectly valid excuse for the decline – it was brought about by the second biggest disappointment of his sailing career. For more than a year previously he had been resisting the offers of Peter de Savary to join his Victory challenge for the America's Cup. Then, in May 1983, after Law had shown himself to be one of the outstanding helmsmen at the match-racing series for the Lymington Cup, the offer was finally accepted, on terms that provided some security for himself his wife and two daughters.



Law: now has two others to consider

During the Lymington series, Law was the only man to beat the overall winner, John Bertrand, who later went on to win the America's Cup for Australia.

Law was also the only one of Victory's potential helmsmen who held a full-time job outside the boating industry, and it is his proud claim that he is a totally amateur yachtsman. That does not mean he funds his own campaigns: few amateurs can afford that sort of outlay. He depends on sponsorship, as must all Olympic prospects. His principal sponsor at the time was his employer, British Olivetti, for whom he worked as sales manager for the Southampton area. They provided financial assistance and, probably as important, time off to go racing.

Another victim

There was no question, however, of having time off to go America's Cup racing: it had to be a full-time commitment for six months. He resigned from British Olivetti and became yet another victim of America's Cup fever.

Predictably, the established helmsmen in the Victory squad, already disputing the skipper's berth between themselves, were less than enthusiastic when an additional contender was thrown into the ring. A few weeks later Law resigned for the second time and returned to his Soling and, understandably, some mediocre results.

At the moment he is living off what remains of his year's contract with de Savary, with his sailing supported by grants from the Sports Aid Foundation and RYA. The next few months will be spent working on a new Soling, practising for hours on end and competing in as many events as can be fitted in before the final Olympic trials

If he is selected, there is no chance of Christopher Law letting the side down through any inferiority complex. He has beaten the world's best before: he sees no reason why he should not do so again.

John Nicholls

RUGBY UNION

Return of two men who can make life hard for England

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Two events, both of some significance for England in their remaining two international championships matches, occurred yesterday. France announced the side showing one change to meet England in Paris on March 3 and Cardiff announced the selection of Terry Holmes for their Schweppes Welsh Cup match with Newbridge this Saturday.

It will be Holmes's first senior match of the season at scrum half for his club. He has played three games for Cardiff Athletic and demonstrated that, after six months away from the game, he has recovered from the severe ligament damage to his right knee which he suffered during the first international between New Zealand and the British Lions last June.

It will be a tense return on the Newbridge ground but the implications are that Wales may be able to select Holmes for their final international against England at Twickenham on March 17. They have not been entirely happy at scrum half this season: Giles, of Aberavon, played against Japan and against Romania before being displaced by Douglas (Llanelli) for the international championship.

But Douglas, after three games, did not enjy the best of days against France last Saturday and if Holmes can convince the Welsh selectors of his match fitness, he must surely come into their deliberations for the game at Twickenham which is a week after his 27th birthday.

A fourth possibility, Bishop, the Pontypool scrum half, has excluded himself from consideration by being suspended after a sending-off earlier this month.

The Welsh match is below England' horizon at the moment, first they must clear the major hurdle presented by France, who have recalled Dospital to play loose head prop instead of Cremaschi. Dospital, aged 33, from Bayonne, was a member of the pack which scrummaged well against England at Twickenham last year and will be winning his eleventh cap.

The only other change the French have made from the side which beat Wales 21-16 last Saturday is positional. The flying Esteve moves from the left wing, where he scored in every international last season, to the right which allows Lagisquet to play on the wing he occupies for Bayonne.

Lagisquet who has also played centre has recorded 10.8 seconds for the 100 metres and also possesses the rare ability to make progress in a confined space. Esteve is more dependent upon sheer speed and it may be that the French selectors, believing that Underwood will remain on England's left wing, have noticed a degree of uncertainty about the Yorkshireman's positioning which Estee could exploit.

Scotland's side to play Ireland on Saturday week will be announced today. Both their coach, Jim Telfer and convenor of selectors, Iain Macgregor, watched Ireland at Twickenham and they will also have pondered Scotlands 13-10 win over France in Sunday's B international. They must replace the injured Kennedy at centre and decide whether Cuthbertson, the Harlequins lock, has recovered from a groin strain.

They may also consider the return of Munro who has been so unlucky with injury this season, to the right wing, and the recall of Renwich with the experience of 51 caps behind him at centre.

Three members of the Lancashire side which won the county Colts championship in January are in the squad of 26 from which an England Colts team to play Birmingham University on Sunday will be chosen. The first Colts international this season is against Italy on March 16.

FRANCE: S Blanco; P Esteve, P Sella, D Codorniou, P Lagisquet; J P Lescarboura; J Gallion; J L Joinel; D Erbani, J P Rives (captain) J Condom, A Lorieux, D Dubroca; P Dintrans, P Dospital.

Loughborough move strongly into final

By Peter Marson

Cardiff	3
Loughborough	17

Loughborough cruised through the semi-final round of the UAU championship at Cheltenham yesterday, beating Cardiff by a goal, two tries and a penalty goal to a penalty. Cardiff earned plenty of marks for their determination, but they faced a stronger, more skilful combination.

Loughborough have proved themselves worthy of the final, to be played at Twickenham on March 7, and Nottingham, their opponents on the great day, have done the same. Yesterday a strong, fickle wind blew down the pitch, and driving rain during the first half made life difficult. It was cold, too.

In a first half littered with abortive kicks at goal, 13 points were scored. In the second, Loughborough had to scratch hard to find another seven, from a try and a penalty.

With the wind playing fearful tricks, place-kicking was a hazardous exercise. In the circumstances, Thomas did well to land a penalty for Cardiff from 30 metres out, but Llewellyn, Loughborough's kicker, put his side on the path to victory by converting Williams's try from the edge of touch before putting the match beyond Cardiff's reached with a penalty – his third attempt.

Williams's try, which rounded off Loughborough's initial thrust, was a fine reward for teamwork. Following a five-metre scrummage and a steady shove from an excellent pack of forwards, Williams could choose his moment to score. Cardiff must then have realized the size of the mountain they would have to climb.

Thomas's penalty goal helped them, but some unnecessarily boisterous play by members of both teams helped neither and took some of the sheen off Loughborough's performance.

Turning round seven points down, Cardiff lost Vernon, injured, and that meant reshuffling their midfield triangle. Yet their defence seldom failed and that was the merit of their performance.

SCORERS: Cardiff: Penalty: Thomas. Loughborough: Tries: Williams, Green, Castleton. Conversion: Llewellyn. Penalty: Llewellyn.

Cardiff: R Thomas; A Elliott, J Robinson, A Baker, P Younge; M Vernon (rep J Piggott), J Moxon; R Greville, D Taylor, R Mellish, M Ryan, R Barry, H Davies, A Hotchkiss, J Morris.

Loughborough: S Reid; I McMillan, S Burnhill, C Allen, G Green; D Llewellyn, C Williams; M Freer, T Rodgerson, M Hayes, J Wells, J Morrison, D Egerton, T Waldron, N Castleton.

Referee: A White (Gloucestershire).

TENNIS

Levine victory repairs his damaged confidence

By Lewine Mair

Brian Levine, of South Africa, won a tie break in the final set against Frederik Rosenquist, of Sweden, to edge into the second round of the Lawn Tennis Association's satellite event at Coventry yesterday.

Levine must win again today if he is to be certain of a place in next week's Masters at Bramhall. However, getting through yesterday's match was in itself something of an achievement for a young man whose confidence has taken a severe knock over the last few weeks.

Seeded No 1 in the first two satellite events, he went out in the quarter finals the first week and in the first round the next. As he was to explain later, he had never been seeded first in anything before and the result was he felt tense and bad tempered.

Ronsenquist, gove Levine plenty of frustrating moments but, to his credit, the South African stayed sufficiently in control to cope in the crisis and take the match 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (12-10).

Having survived the qualifying competition at the weekend, Nick Brown carried on the good work yesterday, winning 1–6, 6–4, 6–2 against Mick Pazourek, an American making his first appearance in the main draw. A student in busines management at Texas University, Pazourek is unhappy that he has spent £800 this month but won only £50.

Richard Lewis, the other British winner yesterday, came through 6–3, 6–4 against Bob Green.

Richard Whichello and Jason Goodall lifted the spirits of Paul Hutchins the British team manager, with a good result.

The two youngsters, who both have another year to complete in junior tennis, won their doubles in three sets against Greg Amaya, brother of Victor, and Schacher Perkis.

RESULTS: First round: B Levine (South Africa) bt F Rosenquist (Sweden), 6–4, 4–6, 7–6; R Bathman (Sweden) bt P Fineman (USA) 6–1, 6–2; S Perkis (Israel) bt P Svensson (Sweden) 7–5, 6–3; M Brunnberg (Sweden) bt J Feaver (GB) 5–7, 6–2, 6–2; S Svensson (Sweden) bt W Hampson (Australia) 6–3, 6–4; E Van'T Hof (USA) bt L Alfred (GB) 7–6, 6–2; R Lewis (GB) bt R Green (USA) 6–3, 6–4.

Cumberland offer £5,000

The fiftieth Cumberland Lawn Tennis Club tournament, sponsored by British Home Stores, will be played at Hampstead from April 23 to 28 (Rex Bellamy writes). A qualifying competition will almost certainly be necessary during the preceding weekend.

The tournament was inaugurated in 1927, a year after professional competition was first promoted in New York. This year's total prize fund for Hampstead's four events – regretably, there will be no mixed doubles – will be £5,000. Of that, 56.5 per cent has been allocated to the men.

As usual, eight seeds in both singles events will be granted byes

Navratilova is back on form

East Hanover, New Jersey (AP)–Martina Navratilova, showing no signs of her 35-day lay-off, defeated Nancy Yeargin, of the United States, 6-3, 6-2, in a 55-minute first round match in the $150,000 US women's national indoor championships on Monday.

However, the sixth seed Sylvia Hanika, of West Germany, was extended to three sets before beating Beth Herr, of the United States, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3. Miss Navratilova meets Virginia Wade in the next round

RESULTS: C Bassett (Can) bt G Purdy (US), 6-1, 6-0; P Casale (US) bt E Pfaff (WG), 6-2, 6-2; J Russell (US) bt C Monteiro (Br), 6-3, 6-3; A Leand (US) bt B Potter (US) 6-3, 6-3; S Hanika (WG) bt B Herr (US), 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; M Navratilova (US) bt N Yeargin (US), 6-3, 6-2.

Motor racing's pace-setters conspicuous by their absence





The trio who were missing from Rio: Piquet (the world champion), Murray and Rosche, of BMW

Big three keep world guessing

Three important people were missing from the Jacarapagua circuit near Rio de Janeiro last month when most of motor racing's grand prix teams took part in their annual engine, chassis and tyre testing. There have been other tests since in Europe, and more are to come in South Africa, but there is a special significance to the annual hot weather tests in Brazil, where the battle for 1984 world championship will begin next month. Many people maintain that if your car works well in Rio you can be fairly certain will be well set up for the season.

Yet the absentees were the three men whose combined talents have been forged into one of the sport's most effective working partnerships – Nelson Piquet, the world champion; Gordon Murray, the designer of the Brabham car which the Brazilian drove last year to his second world title; and Paul Rosche, the man responsible for the BMW turbocharged engine which played a vital part in Piquet's success. Together they became the standard-setters in 1983 and many predict that they will do so again this year.

This is why their absence from the Brazilian tests was a considerable disappointment to their rivals because it meant that an important yardsick by which their own performances could be assessed had been denied them. On paper, the Rio times looked good – the best, recorded by Patrick Tanbay's Renault, was about five seconds quicker than last year's pole position time. The problem is that no one knows whether it was quick enough.

A year ago, having stayedaway from th Rio tests, Brabham staggered the Formula One world by appearing at the Brazilian Grand Prix with radically new cars, designed around a set of fundamentally changed regulations announced only weeks earlier. It was a prodigious team effort ("I was living on pills, just to keep me going, and I never want to do that again," Murray said and it was rewarded with instant success when Piquet won in a canter.

There will be no reaically new Brabham-BMW on the start ine when the new season sarts on March 25. Something exciting may appear later in the year but Piquet, and whoever is chosen to drive the second car, will begin the season with a further development of last year's BT52B, featuring repositioned radiators and intercoolers and new bodywork to accommodate them. It is the repackaging of this car, of which six examples are being built, which his kept Murray busy in Chessington and Rosche in Munich and the telephone lines between them as hot as the sun they missed in Rio.

Daily contact has become almost a way of life for these two talented engineers, who have become close friends as well as business colleagues. "It really has worked remarkably well," Murry said reflecting on two years of racing with BMW turbo power. "Usually it is a recipe for disaster when a Formula One team gets involved with a major manufacturer because a big company's management structure makes it impossible to move as fast as you must in order to stay alive in Formula One. But they let BMW Motorsport run as a separate entity and essentially it is controlled by one man, just like us.

"We had one or two problems at first, but we resolved them. They wanted us to race their engine as quickly as possible in order to speed development, whereas we wanted to wait until it was reliable because we wanted to win the championship. That meant getting on top of quality control – and remember, they had to look after 25 engines for us."

Murray and Rosche, justifiably, have great mutual respect. Murray has been with Brabham since 1970 ("Jack was still driving when I joined") chief designer since the end of 1972. No Formula One chassis designer has had a more consistent record of success, an achievement which, ironically, can probably be attributed to his lack of scientific training.

"Fortunatley, I have always been blessed with a highly developed imagination. Also, from experience you get to know by instinct what is likely to work and what is not." Unlike some of his rivals he is not a slave to computer print-outs, and although with BMW he uses telemetry to monitor ignition and fuel injection on the engine, and the team are now making greater use of a wind tunnel, Brabhams tend to be designed more from a gut feeling than from scientific theory. Even so, Murray maintains that any new car should be at least 90 per cent right

Part of the rest is down to the driver, and here both Murray and Roshe have a tremendous asset in Piquet, who has always demonstrated grat natural skill, but has since developed an extraordinary feel and sensitivity for machinery, which has been invaluable in wedding chassis to engine and bringing the package to optimum performance. "His other great contribution is the atmosphere and loyalty he has generated within the team," Murray said. Rosche agreed: "It is almost unbelievable, and so rare in motor racing. This is such a serious business, and we are all so dedicated to success, yet the team operates just like a happy family. Piquet has a special sense of homour, so there is a lot of joking and laughter to compensate for the hard work and sometimes the disappointment. And when the success comes, well, we enjoy the celebrating, too!"

Like the day Rosche returned to Munich from South Africa, where Piquet had just clinched the 1983 world championship. The entire BMW board turned out to greet him – it was the first time anyone can remember the Tuesday board meeting ever being interrupted – to thank him for justifying the big step in Formula One which they had been so reluctant, at first to take. "Now," Rosche said, Gordon and I must do it all over again . . . if only to justify the party."

John Blunsden

Two races saved

The South African Grand Prix will go ahead on April 7 despite the possible withdrawal of 1m rands (about £570,000) in sponsorship by a hotels group, Bobby Hartslief, the Kyalami circuit owner, said here yesterday. The group are reviewing their involvement after Government decision to reduce tax relief on cash given by sponsors to international sporting events. The Detroit Grand Prix will continue for four more years at least despite losses of $1m.

Standard-setter: The Brabham on test this month in France

ATHLETICS

Great North race has no permit

By Pat Butcher

The Great North Run, Newcastle's answer to the London Marathon, has been refused a permit by the local committee of the Amateur Athletic Association. The race organizers, who include Brenden Foster, are to meet members of the number one committee of the North-eastern Counties AAA tomorrow to discuss problems over an incorrect application for a permit and non-payment of £9,000 from last year's race to the appropriate governing body.

Last year's winners, Carlos Lopes, of Portugal, and Grete Waitz, of Norway, will not be able to run in the event on June 17, nor will any club runner.

The race, sponsored by Thorn-EMI, is reputed to be the biggest in Europe. There were 20,000 runners last year, of whom 18,000 were not members of AAA clubs and so paid a 50p levy, which was due to go to Northern Counties AAA. This has not been paid because, it seems, some of the organizers feel that the money should go to the North-eastern committee, who have refused the race a permit.

The dispute has the hallmarks of a family squabble since Foster and his joint organizers, John Caine and Max Coleby, and one of the leading committee members, George Sivell, are members of Gateshead Harriers. Sivell said yesterday: "We thought it was rather arrogant for them to plough on and ignore the governing body, and the committee took a very dim view of the fact that the 50p levies had not been handed over."

Caine admitted yesterday to an "administrative oversight," which resulted in the race date being announced before the committee had given official clearance, and he expects everything to be cleared up at tomorrow's meeting. There is a ceiling of 25,000 competitors

Hugh Jones, who came fifth in the Los Angeles Marathon over the Olympic course on Sunday in 2 hours 11 minutes 54 seconds, will not run in the London Marathon in May, preferring to leave his Olympic fate to the selectors.

BOXING

An upstairs-downstairs contest

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

A kind of class war, in the boxing sense, will break out when Nick Wilshire, of Bristol, faces Jimmy Cable, of Orpington, at the Albert Hall tonight for the British light-middleweight title vacated by Prince Rodney.

The background of the two combatants has as much in common as an Eton and Trinity man has with a boy who left school at the age of 16 to go to work. Wilshire won the ABA middleweight title and travelled to distant parts, representing England against the best in the world, and winning a silver medal in the junior championships in Tokyo. He even has a win over the great Russian, Koshkin. Cable hung around his home town and did not even win a divisional title.

As a professional, Wilshire, under the shrewd management of Mickey Duff, continued to enjoy foreign travel, boxing in the United States, where light-middleweights go down well. Last month he went back to Florida to finish off his training for this contest under George Francis. Cable's manager, Doug Bidwell, who took Alan Minter to the world middleweight title, pooh-poohs all that fancy American fare and Cable stayed at home, pounding the wet English roads and getting down to a solid meat and two veg gym diet.

Cable had a win last year over Wilshire, though the Bristol boxer says he was suffering from influenza at the time. He claims there was little in that bout and that his training in the United States will have given him the extra to beat Cable convincingly this time.

Both men have hearts as big as the Ritz and that is why few can predict confidently who will lift the title. But Bidwell is certain that home-nourished talent will take the shine off Wilshire. Colin Jones, Wales's world-rated welterweight, has twice shown the worth of the British approach.

It should be a classic confrontation between the upright English boxing of the taller Cable and the aggressive short punching of the stocky Wilshire. Cable will go to work upstairs, not only because the target is nearer to him, but also because one José Valejo showed that Wilshire can be floored by a shot to the chin. In their last bout, Cable shook him with some good right uppercuts.

Wilshire, conversely, will go to work downstairs, where he, too, caught Cable with some beauties. Cable is weak in his exposed mid-section, as Horace McKenzie showed by knocking him out with a left hook to the body.

If Cable can keep hitting and moving away, he should win, but will require all of his fitness to keep it up for 12 rounds. Wilshire is touch and persistent, and there must come a time when he will catch Cable and slow him down before going to town.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

Milk Cup
Semi-final, second leg
Aston Villa (0) v Everton (2)

Associate Members Cup
First round
Bradford City v Hartlepool United (3.0)
Chester City v Blackpool
Exeter City v Bristol City
Hereford United v Port Vale
Lincoln City v Doncaster Rovers
Oxford United v Swindon Town
Rochdale v Preston North End
Stockport County v Crewe Alexandra

Scottish League Cup
Semi-final, first leg
Aberdeen v Celtic

Semi-final, second leg
(Rangers (1) v Dundee United (1)

Scottish first division
Airdrieonians v Partick Thistle

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Kettering v Frickley

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE CUP: Second round replay: Burton v Horwich.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn v Bolton (7.0); Sunderland v Sheffield United; West Bromwich Albion v Newcastle (7.0). Second division: Huddersfield v Oldham.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Millwall v Ipswich (2.0); Norwich v Reading; Oxford United v West Ham.

IRISH LEAGUE: Cliftonville v Crusaders (3.30).

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Chesham v Cheshunt; Feltham v Metropolitan Police.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Edgware v Chalfont St Peter.

MIDWEEK LEAGUE CUP: Bournemouth v Brentford (2.0); Portsmouth v Southend (2.0).

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Southern division: RS Southampton v Waterlooville.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Hendon v Isthmian League XI FA XI v London University (at Dagenham).

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Clifton v RAF, Plymouth Albion v Exeter University (7.15)
HOSPITALS CUP: Semi-final: Charing Cross v St Mary's (at Rosslyn Park, 2.30)
REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Civil Service v Royal Navy; United Banks v Kent (at Midland Bank RFC, New Beckenham, 2.45)
OTHER MATCH: Surrey University v Metropolitan Police Q Division

OTHER SPORT

HOCKEY (2.45): London League: London University v Guildford; Representative Match: UAU XI v Hockey Association XI (at Crystal Palace). Other matches: Barclays Bank v Lloyds Bank Civil Service v RAF (at Chiswick) HMS Sultan v Southampton.
BASKETBALL: National League: First division: Solent Stars v Leicester; Kingston v Bolton (8.0); Crystal Palace v Sunderland (Sunderland (7.15)
SNOOKER: Tolly Cobbold Classic (at Corn Exchange, Ipswich, 1.0 and 7.0)
SQUASH RACKETS: Debenhams International Challengers Vase: Qualifying rounds (at Surbiton LT and SC, 7.0)

ROWING

Oriel's shaky headship is in danger

By a Special Correspondent

Predicting the Oxford Torpids is traditionally difficult; but this year's bumping races, which start today, should at last see several changes in the top men's and women's divisions.

Keble and Exeter look likely to come down in the men's while Worcester and Christ Church should eventually provide strong and experienced challenges to Oriel's long-standing, but now rather shaky, headship. In the women's division the Osler House medical students are widely tipped to go ahead while Worcester and St Catherine's in their new carbocraft boat look strong.

Further down, Oriel II in the men's and Somerville in the women's top division look too highly placed. Both are well drilled and neither will surrender without a fight in what promises to be four days of exciting racing.



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London EC2M 4NR

ADMINISTRATOR
£9000 neg

An exciting opportunity has arisen to assist in the formation of a new company which will revolutionise a traditional trading function. Already successful in the USA, this innovative company is seeking a capable and sophisticated person to assist in the setting up and running of the London office. Exp of carrying out such a function would be a distinct asset. This is obviously a position offering vast scope for development. Although you would be carrying out an exec role, sec skills could be useful.

DIRECTOR'S PA
to £8500

Join this leading television company at Board level assisting a Director involved in theatre and other activities. You will carry out an elevated function offering extensive involvement at all levels. As well as organisational ability, you will need initiative and diplomacy for this career PA position. Skills 100/60 wpm req.

SYNERGY
the recruitment consultancy
01-637 9533

£10,000

American Banking client is seeking an Executive Secretary with city banking experience, top level administrative and secretarial skills (sh/typing) and the ability to cope in a very high pressure environment. This Senior Executive heads the European banking operation and foreign languages would be a great asset. Age 23-35. Profit share, mortgage sub etc.

MISS SIMPSON
242 2245

Appointments 84 Ltd

21 (& under)

At the moment we have an exciting selection of super jobs that offer extra special interest and scope for young, well-educated Secretaries ready for a career move. All require excellent speeds 100/55 min.

FILMS W1 to £9,500
In at the top working for Senior Director Europe. He will use your French.

PERSONNEL W1 to £7,500
An opportunity to start a career in Personnel with leading Intl Co. Mayfair.

FILMS FINANCE W1 to £7,200
Ideal for the young secretary currently working for top Accountants pre-release viewings.

PROPERTY W1 to £8,000
For young crowd of well known Estate Agents. College leaver considered.

For these and other appointments ring

BERKELEY APPOINTMENTS
151 New Bond St.,
London W1
01-408 0444

PART TIME VACANCIES

DESIGN CONSULTANCY SW3 require experienced S/H Sec (WP/Audio exp useful). Good telephone manner essential, to work for busy marketing dept. Salary/hours negotiable. Telephone in first instance
581 1300

BRIGHT NEW KITCHEN and gift shop needs part-time experienced help. 01-736 7537 (10-6 weekdays).

TEMPTING TIMES

TEMPORARY SECRETARIES
£4.30 p.h.

We have lots of work available for Secretaries who have worked at Director level for at least 2 years in Central London and have speeds of 100/60+. From 5 March we will be paying £4.30 p.h. So telephone us now to join our professional team

434 4512

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

PR COMPANY IN KENSINGTON AREA

Require a temporary Secretary with a mature approach to work for a charming, Managing Director. Must be familiar with an AES Alpha + 14 (word processor) and enjoy lots of client liaison by telephone. Commencing Friday 2nd March for 8 days. Good rates. Please telephone Sue Girling: 222 6044.

NORMA SKEMP
Personnel Services Ltd.
14 Broadway, SW1

Temporary S/H Secs.

(minimum 100/60)
£150 + pw.
Guaranteed work.
Central London, short and long term bookings.
Call Melanie on:
01-229 9244

OFFICE OVERLOAD

TEMPTING TIMES

TELEVISION FASHION ADVERTISING + + + £4 – 4.20 p.h. Excellent opportunities in these young and exciting companies for first class secretaries (90/60 min). long or short term assignments many leading to permanent positions. For a chat and an early interview contact Rita Daly on 01-631 1541. Price Jamieson, Recruitment Consultants.

STEPPING STONES

HARPERS & QUEEN

Needs an intelligent college trained Junior Secretary for the social editors office. Must have accurate shorthand and typing. Good general knowledge, be a non-smoker and live within reasonable travelling distance from W.1 offices.

Please write to:

BEVERLIE FLOWER,
THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE CO. LTD.
72 BROADWICK STREET,
LONDON W1V 2BP

ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCING. Assistant in the education and training dept which is responsible for all the Courses and Awards run by the Academy world wide, typing and previous office experience essential, background in dance an advantage. Hours 10am-6pm together with an average of six weekends overtime per year. Holidays four weeks per annum. Salary c £6,000. Phone or write to Jayne White, Education and Training Dept, Royal Academy of Dancing, 48 Vicarage Crescent, Battersea, London SW11. 3LT. Phone 223 0091.

CAN YOU TYPE at 50 wpm and also have a few days exp on a wordstar wp? Commodity brks in city, urgent vac £8,000 pa, age 18-22. Tel Dawn 404 4933. Fleet Personnel.

APPOINTMENTS

AMBITIOUS EXPERIENCED NEGOTIATOR

required for active letting agents in Highgate. Initiative essential. Salary negotiable.

COMANBUILD
01-340 8273

EXPERT ANTIQUE CARPET repairer required for West End carpet dealer preferably with knowledge of spoken Arabic. Please call 01 493 8758 or 01 409 0872.

LEADING LONDON model agency requires experienced or trainee booker. Approximate age 18-25. Good appearance and telephone manner essential. Salary negotiable. Ring 580 4080.

GIRL FOR MOTOR CRUISER. Greece/Turkey vacancy for lively, intelligent, adaptable girl with Cordon Bleu or similar to cook on motor cruiser from April till October. Phone Merry Donati, 01-660 3999.

EXPERIENCED DRIVER/guides with good 4 door cars. We at U.T.L. have more work than we can handle. Please apply 629 5267.

General Appointments

DEAL WITH PEOPLE
CENTRAL LONDON – £ NEG.

If you like working with people and could believe as we do that finding them jobs is an important and professional activity, then we can offer you a long-term career in one of the UK's largest employment agency groups.

Total individual responsibility for your own professional applicants in a vigorous entrepreneurial and socially aware environment.

To deal with all levels of accountancy staff, an accountancy background would be advantageous but ambitious self-motivated candidates (aged 24-30) with general commercial experience are most welcome. We can offer full training, high earnings potential and planned career prospects. Please ring

ACCOUNTANCY PERSONNEL,
1 GLEN HSE, STAG PLACE,
LONDON SW1. 01-828 6004.

Corsica & Corfu

Leading tour operator requires staff in its House Party Hotels in these two islands from May-October 1984. There is a vacancy for efficient manageress as well as for cooks, cleaners, windsurfing instructors and odd jobmen. You should be sociable, hard working and prepared to join an enthusiastic young team. It will be fun with opportunities for various watersports.

Please apply by letter and CV to
Catharine Murry
Bladen Lines
56-58 Putney High Street
London SW15 2SF

IONIAN GREECE SOUTHERN TURKEY

Couriers required, end April to October to look after discerning guests of all age groups. Must be intelligent, reliable, enthusiastic and with a sense of humour. Good knowledge of Greek or Turkish preferred. Age between 22 and 35. Write to Cricketer Holidays, 4 The White House, Beacon Road, Crowborough, E Sussex, TN6 1AB, enclosing CV and photograph, or telephone.

Crowborough 64242.

FUEL DISTRIBUTION Company, with opportunity to sell into Spain, requires English/Spanish speaking person. Advantage, knowledge of bounderies & steel works in Spain. Advantage, export import knowledge. Advantage, negotiating experience. Please reply to Box 2334 H, The Times.

STEAM AGE is a specialist shop near Kensington High St. We need someone to help run our shop, with secretarial skill and a natural aptitude to turn a friendly hand to anything. 4½ day week (closed Mondays). Please telephone 01-938 1982.

NEGOTIATOR

We require a dynamic, experienced lettings negotiator for a highly successful residential lettings office. The applicant should have flair, be hard working, self-motivated and have a record of proven ability. Preferred age 25-30. Car owner essential. Earning potential well in excess of £10,000 p.a.

Contact: Mrs. P. Berend
ANSCOMBE & RINGLAND
01-722 7105

THE GENERAL TRADING COMPANY

Sloane Square, are looing for an enthusiastic young person to work in their Antiques Department a knowledge of English Antiques desirable.

9-5.30 Monday – Friday and some Saturday mornings. Salary according to age & experience.

Please write with CV to
Sarah Stacey

144 SLOANE STREET,
LONDON SW1.

JAPANESE AND ORIENTAL speaking liaison officer with legal qualifications and business experience required for new venture by established company. Write with CV to Box 2230, The Times.

PARTIME. International firm of relocation consultants are looking for presentable young people (20-30's) preferably with residential property experience, to conduct executives of the world's largest Corporations transferring into and around London. Current driving licence and car essential. Please phone, Sarah Brown 01 629 8222.

SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER
WEST END ADVERTISING AGENCY

Intelligent, self-motivated assistant required for our small, cheerful office. This is an ideal opportunity for gaining advertising experience. General secretarial work, bookkeeping and contact with the media will be involved. Good salary negotiable.

Please apply in writing, enclosing CV to: John Kennard, ABGH Advertising, 87 Jermyn St, London, SW1Y 6JD, or telephone 01-839 4491.

SELF STARTER
c. £9,000

Style, initiative & Excellent Sec skills are needed by 2 directors of small but expanding W1 Co. Confidence & personality will play a vital role in promoting the company image as well as providing admin backup. 23-30.

01-730 5148

JAYGAR (Rec. Cons.)

Negotiator/Secretary

A small friendly firm of West London residential estate agents require someone who has a lively and go-ahead nature wishing to combine their secretarial skills with all aspects of negotiating. Previous experience in estate agents preferable. Car driver essential. Salary + commission negotiable.

01-602 0287 (days)
01-736 0159 (eves)
Pettigrew & Partners

SENIOR SECRETARY

An interesting and varied secretarial/administrative job awaits an adaptable, intelligent person working for the Chairman of a progressive management and investment group based in pleasant Bond Street offices. Good shorthand/typing skills and a business sense are required. An ability to work as a member of a small team in a friendly office is essential and a sense of humour is a must. Salary £8,000-£9,000 pa depending on experience. Benefits include BUPA, LVs and pension scheme. Send cv to: Mrs Lynne Thomas, Thompson Clive & Partners Ltd, 24 Old Bond St, London, W1X 3DA. Tel: 01-491 4809.

SALES ORIENTATED?

Accord, the well known Card and Gift Paper Publishers need a merchandiser to visit Dept Stores etc in North and West London.

Ideally suit a lively enthusiastic person 21-32. No experience necessary and full training given. £8,000 plus. Car provided.

Ring: Mary on 0223 248 983
Accord, Baldwin Tce
London N1 7RU

STAFF CONSULTANT

We are looking for a trainee consultant (early 20's) to join our busy team – South Molton Street. You will need to be enthusiastic, self-motivated and numerate with good typing. If you fill the bill and are looking for a challenging & rewarding career, ring us now.

499 6566
493 8383

THE GROSVENOR BUREAU
Staff Consultants

SECRETARY KNIGHTSBRIDGE TO £8,000

The small, friendly office of a Knightsbridge Consultants needs someone with good secretarial skills, including shorthand, typing and bookkeeping to trial balance. The ideal job for someone who likes variety, involvement and to be kept busy. Age 22-35.

Bernadette of Bond St.
Recruitment Consultants
No 55, (next door to Fenwicks)
01-629 1204

PA/SECRETARY
Toiletries Co - W1
Top salary by negotiation

A capable and resourceful PA Secretary is required to assist the MD of our small but hectic company in W1. You must be something of an all-rounder, as apart from an excellent telephone manner and shorthand secretarial skills, you'll need a strong personality and sense of humour to deal with a young, dynamic but very often impossibly difficult MD who expects everything done yesterday to the highest of standards! Well educated, with several years office experience, you will posess the ability to cope in all situations. If you think you can fill the bill contact Maureen Middleton, Cfiro Perfumeries Ltd, 21 Nottingham Place, London, W1M 3FB. Tel: 01-486 8641. (No Agencies)

NUMERACY + ENTHUSIASM = £10,500

Small financial company close to Bank is looking for an excellent secretary to work for one their partners, who travels extensively. It is a dynamic young team who's average age is 35. The pace is fast, the hours long and the remuneration package excellent. Financial background is not essential, but you must be numerate have good secretarial skills and WP experience.

Tel 01-606 1611

Senior Secretaries
Recruitment Consultants

PR COVENT GARDEN

An exciting opportunity exists for a team-spirited secretary blessed with vitality, competence and flawless skills to take on a supportive role in a well known PR Company. The pace is fast and the atmosphere stimulating. Salary about £8000.

Sheila Childs
Recruitment Consultant
385 9075
10e Wyfold Road
Fulham SW6

Sarah Hodge

30% SEC
£8,000 + April review

Emphasis on the PA side of this Research Consultants PA/Sec niche. 70% of day will be spent overseeing personal/business schedule of intelligent Chairman.

Call Bernadette Sumner on 491 7638

Recruitment Consultants
115, New Bond Street, London W.1.

STOCKBROKERS
Package £9-10,000

Two international executives in a leading firm of stockbrokers in EC2 seek a cheerful, calm and flexible secretary, 24-34, to organise all aspects of their busy day. You should be well presented with an excellent telephone manner and sh/typ skills of 90/65. City experience and knowledge of Spanish helpful. Fabulous offices.

Please ring 588 3535.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Partner's Secretary/PA

Deputy Senior Partner of energetic firm of Chartered Accountants close to Tottenham Court Road, seeks self-motivated Secretary/PA, to cope with his hectic work and travel schedule. Position requires total job involvement, shorthand, audio, accurate typing and an ability to communicate well at all levels. Age 23+. Salary £8,500 negotiable.

Contact Stephanie Webb on 01-388 2456

La crème de la crème

A responsible job for the secretary with flair

This is what's on offer to the Secretary who joins Calor Gas Limited in Datchet, Slough (close to junction 5 on the M4 motorway).

As senior Secretary to our Sales and Marketing Director, you will be using your shorthand, typing, administrative skills and organisational flair to the full.

It's a fast moving environment and at times it means working under pressure. The work is interesting and rewarding providing plenty of scope for working on your own initiative.

You should be aged 25-40 with a lively outgoing personality and a keen sense of humour, and have your own transport.

In return, there's a very good salary c. £7,500 p.a. including non-contributory pension and life assurance scheme.

Please write/phone: Mrs. B. Cole, Personnel Officer, Calor Gas Limited, Appleton Park, Riding Court Road, Datchet, Slough SL3 9JG. Tel: Slough 40000.



Top Flight Secretary/PA

to President-European Division North London

This is an attractive opportunity to work for the President of the European division of Matchbox Toys Ltd, one of the world's leading toy manufacturers, at the company's Head Offices in Enfield, Middlesex.

In addition to providing a first-class secretarial service, you should possess the ability and resourcefulness to carry out a wide variety of administrative tasks which will include dealing with social and personal matters. You must be a car owner and have the flexibility to work irregular hours, when necessary.

Aged 25-35, you should have a good all-round education and be a self-starter, with excellent secretarial skills and minimum speeds of 120/60. Experience of dealing with overseas offices would be an advantage.

This demanding but rewarding role will appeal to high fliers who are seeking to advance their careers within an international environment.

Please write with full details to: V. L. Sykes (Miss), Personnel Officer, Matchbox Toys Limited, Martinbridge Trading Estate, Lincoln Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 1SP.

Closing date: 5th March, 1984.

MATCHBOX

Well established – does it mean old-fashioned?

Not in our case. Although Challoners can certainly boast of a history of success, our operation is thoroughly up to date. Why else would so many blue chip clients and candidates keep coming back to us? But don't take our word for it – put us to the test. Some of our current career opportunities are outlined briefly below.

QUALITY £10,000
Superior talents are sought for a prestige City PA/Secretarial appointment in Corporate Finance. A proven track record – working at Director level and with distinct organisational & administrative overtones – is essential. An excellent benefits package is offered in addition to salary.

FINANCE £9,000
High commitment and superb formal skills are essential in this full PA role. Working for the MD, previous exper in Finance or Banking would be an asset, but professionalism & initiative, linked to top level background, could count for more.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE £8,500+
The Managing Director of the UK arm of an American major, operating from a small HQ here, is seeking key support from a professional. True involvement, including liaison world-wide, is offered, in this challenging PA role, to the warm, dedicated personality with excellent previous top-level experience.

ARCHIVES to £8,300
A rare, superb opportunity for an erudite Personal/Editorial Secretary to offer key support to a Professor engaged on fascinating historical works. Preference will be given to a Graduate, well versed in Library-based research, with some knowledge of Editional sequence on a WP.

MARKETING to £7,400
Pressure, yes maybe, but unusual interest in a busy, busy job as Secretary to an Agency Executive. Ideal for the dynamic young person with the enthusiasm & zest to go into the attack! Super conditions & lovely people!

GRADUATE £6,000
An excellent opportunity within a major City organisation for the intelligent individual – with good typing – wishing to pursue a career in Personnel. A degree in Social Science/Law/Economics is essential, as is the intention to pursue IPM studies.

AND OF COURSE . . .
Unusual TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS at top rates, for Secretarial, WP, & Typing personnel – both short & long-term.

If you are interested in any of the above positions, please contact any of our branches throughout Central London or call in or phone one of the branches below.

19-23 Oxford St, W1. Tel: 01-437 9030
131-133 Cannon St, EC4. Tel: 01-626 8315

Challoners Recruitment Consultants

Wang Supervisor

up to £9,000

The British National Oil Corporation, one of the world's largest oil traders, is looking for a fully trained supervisor for its Wang OIS 140 System.

The Wang Supervisor will be responsible for the maintenance and efficiency of the System, identifying and developing new applications, providing training for staff and providing operational support, where necessary, to the various Departments.

The position requires a thorough knowledge of the Wang OIS 140 System, especially the supervisory functions, along with highly developed communication and training skills.

Candidates must have been educated to at least 'A' level standard and will have had 5 years' secretarial experience of which a minimum of 3 years' must have been in word processing. They must also have had previous experience of word processor training.

A salary negotiable up to £9,000 is accompanied by a wide range of benefits, including free BUPA membership, Private Health Insurance, 4 weeks' holiday and a subsidised staff restaurant.

If your qualifications and experience match the requirements for this position telephone 01-408 1840 Extension 3231 for an application form or write giving full details to The Personnel Manager, The British National Oil Corporation, 29 Bolton Street, London W1Y 8BN.

Applications should be received by 6th March 1984.



The British National Oil Corporation

Senior Secretary to £9,000 EC2

The Managing Director of this well known city bank is looking for a personal assistant with excellent shorthand and typing skills, the ability to use a word processor and preferably with a financial background.

Secretary to £8,600

Ideal position with a large international company for a real 'go-getter' with determination and ambition. Secretarial skills appropriate to Director level experience a must and the overall package reflects the seniority of this position.

We also have temporary assignments both long and short term in all areas.

For further details please call Alison Dawe at Brook Street Senior Secretarial Appointments on 486 6144 for an immediate appointment or call in to see her at 136 Baker Street, London W1.

BROOK STREET BUREAU

All an employment service should be



GREATER LONDON ARTS ASSOCIATION

is looking for a

FILM/VIDEO ASSISTANT

to provide secretarial and administrative assistance to the Film/Video Officer in all aspects of the financing and development of the film/video work. Initiative and a willingness to share office routine is important. Salary Scale £6774 - £8139 (incl London Weighting).

Application forms and details available from:

Brian Harris, Assistant Director,
GLAA, 25 Tavistock Place, London WC1
(please enclose sae)
Closing date for Applications: 9 March '84

An equal opportunities employer

Bilingual Secretary

Required to work for the SECRETARY GENERAL of the General Association of International Sports Federations, based at the Sports Council's Headquarters Offices in Euston.

Good English/French secretarial skills (including audio) and previous experience essential, together with fluent written/spoken French. Other languages useful.

The appointee must be capable of working on his/her own initiative, as the Secretary General is frequently required to travel abroad: his secretary may have the opportunity to accompany him on occasion.

The appointment will be for an initial period of nine months, with the possibility of an extension to this limit. Starting salary c£8,000 per annum, plus fringe benefits.

Further details and application forms from:
Paul Burgin:
01-388 1277 ext 208
Closing date:
5th March 1984



ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

25-30 required to act as PA to the Secretary of an expanding learned Society. Good shorthand and typing speeds essential with the ability to work under pressure on own initiative. A cheerful outgoing personality would be a distinct advantage as this post involves a lot of direct contact with the Fellowship.

Starting salary c £7,000. 4 weeks 4 days annual holidays. Season ticket loan and LVs.

Please apply with CV and names of two referees to:
R M Bateman Esq, Executive Secretary

THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0JU.

By Friday 2 March.

INTERNATIONAL EXPANSION £9,000

A major public company needs a P.A. to the M.D. of their international division. During his frequent absences abroad you will be expected to take responsibility and liaise with staff at all levels. As he will be developing business in Europe and Third World countries, French and Spanish would be a distinct advantage. You will be bright, self-motivated, and enjoy involvement in a fascinating but busy environment. Speed 100/60 Age 25-30.

ANGELA MORTIMER
TEL: 629 9686/7/8/9

The Tea Council

PA/SECRETARY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Age 25+ c £7,500

The Tea Council undertakes all aspects of the generic promotion of tea throughout the UK.

The PA/Secretary will be required to ensure a smooth running office, have excellent secretarial skills, a flexible approach and initiative.

Working as part of a small professional team you will be encouraged to use and promote your own specific talents within all aspects of the Tea Council's activities, which includes public relations, promotions and advertising.

The office is near Cannon Street and Blackfriars Stations. Hours are 9.30 to 5.00 with 4 weeks' holiday.

Interested? Please ring 01-248 1024 for further details.

SECRETARY/PA

Living in Hampstead area required for Chairman of communications company

Applicants must have first-class secretarial skills, shorthand essential, and be experienced at dealing with people at all levels

A sense of humour and flexibility are two essential qualities. He has many varied interests including an estate in Southern Ireland, family trusts etc.

A driving licence is essential as the successful applicant will be required to drive the Chairman from Hampstead home to Victoria based offices.

Please send CV to: Angela Meredith,

AIR CALL

176/184 Vauxhall Bridge Rd., London SW1

ADMINISTRATOR

Management consultancy in NW1 are seeking an enthusiastic administrator to assist in the day to day running of the company.

Ideally you will be 25+ with previous experience in bookkeeping and administration. Typing skills and a knowledge of word processors would be an advantage but most importantly you will be capable of acting on your own initiative and have a desire to learn and be involved with all aspects of running a small office.

Salary will be commensurate with skills and experience.

Please write with your cv to Jill McKenzie, KIA MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS, 9 Parkway, London NW1 7PG

"I feel fresh as a daisy...."

"How's the Big Wheel?"

"Electrified: he's booked our Guiness Temp permanently"

"Tap Tap to that!"



21 Brompton Arcade, Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, London SW3.

Recruitment Consultants **01-589 8807**

JOYCE GUINESS BUREAU

TRANSWORLD AIRLINES INC

Seek for the Personnel Department of the International Division Headquarters newly established in London (responsible for Labour Relations, Employee Compensation and Personnel Policies in 24 countries).

PERSONNEL ASSISTANTS

£8,500 Excellent fringe benefits including LV's, Pension and Life Assurance Scheme and generous low cost air travel privileges after qualifying service.

Candidates must have excellent secretarial skills, pleasant manner, good education, enjoy working with numbers, knowledge of modern office management techniques and equipment. Fluency in at least one other major European language and overseas living experience helpful. Position initially at Heathrow with relocation to Central or West London mid 1984.

Write with full CV to:
Department (T)
TWA, 214 Oxford Street
London W1N 9HA
Telephone enquiries disqualify.

PA/SECRETARY

Young director and his team require an experienced, enthusiastic and motivated PA/Secretary to work in a busy environment for an International Consultancy. The successful applicant is likely to be in their mid-twenties with impeccable secretarial skill.

In return we offer an excellent salary plus fringe benefits, including L.V.s, season ticket loan, etc. Applications should be made in writing, enclosing c.v., to:

Miss R. Y. ENRIGHT
CHEM SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL LTD
28 ST. JAMES'S SQUARE,
LONDON, SW1

SECRETARY WANTED

To work in the Mayfair Office of a Development Company. Applicants will be literate, responsible and presentable and will possess shorthand and typing skills to a high standard. The person appointed will be expected to help in the running of the office and must be able to work unattended when required.

A substantial salary will be paid for what will be a demanding job.

Apply in writing please, enclosing your CV, direct to David Little, Teesland Development Company Limited, 49 Old Bond Street, London, W1X 3AF.

NO AGENCIES

ADVERTISING MANAGER

in major institution is looking for a good shorthand secretary. Salary £7000 + neg p.a.

No Shorthand

W1 AD AGENCY

needs bright, bubbly, organised CT/Sec for A/c Handling. Opportunity for promotion. Sal £7000 p.a.

W2 PR CO

needs good CT/Sec for 2 bosses. Sal £6500 neg. Start immediately.

We are also looking for 2 Receptionists both for W1 clients, one with typing (50/50). Sal circa £7000 p.a.

Ring Sally Owens or Heather Myers
01-235 8427. 4 Pont St, SW1

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

CONFERENCE ORGANISER

We have a unique opportunity for a bright, self motivated and creative person to work for a dynamic city group specialising in financial seminars and conferences. Your responsibilities will include liaison with speakers and guests, press and publicity arrangements together with the monitoring of budgets and background research, proven administrative flair, and fast typing essential, financial experience an advantage. Age 23-35, Salary negotiable minimum £8,000.

Please call 588 3535

Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants

PA with FLAIR c. £9,000

Two Directors responsible for the co-ordination of an international trading group are seeking a 1st class PA who is a Self-starter has excellent communicative skills and possesses bags of initiative and intelligence, self assurance. A level education and top skills (100/60) are essential in this envolved and stimulating position, age 24-30. Please telephone

Joanna Athorne on 493 5787
GORDON YATES LTD
35 Old Bond St, London W1X 4LB
(Recruitment Consultants)

CANADIAN STOCKBROKER

Requires experienced Secretary with knowledge of North American Security Markets.

Salary negotiable

Apply Box 2383 H, The Times

THE ENGINEERING COUNCIL

is seeking a well educated Secretary to work for an education and training Officer. Good Secretarial and administrative skills, including shorthand, are required for this interesting and varied post. Candidates must be able to act on their own initiative and work as part of a small friendly team in modern well equipped offices. Salary up to £7,000 + LU's. 5 weeks holiday. Apply in writing with CV to

Julia Watson, The Engineering Council
Canberra House, 10/16 Maltravers Street, London WC2R 3ER

SECRETARY/PA

Fast growing offshore engineering group requires PA/Secretary, responsible to the Technical Director, to work in the company head offices in Hammersmith.

Applicants should be smart, intelligent (min 2 'A' levels) and have word processing experience (IBM preferred) as well as the usual skills (shorthand, audio, telex). Car driver and non-smoker preferred.

Salary circa £8,000. Age 20-35. Please call Miss J West on 01-748 4600.

PRIVATE HEALTH CARE

SECRETARY

required to work for the Senior Executives of an expanding company involved in the private health care sector, based close to Piccadilly Circus.

Applicants need to be between 21-30, well educated, competent with initiative and a sense of humour and possessing normal secretarial skills.

Please write with CV to:

P. Morris
Hospital Capital Corporation
37 Golden Square,
London, W1R 4AL
or Ring 01-734 7931
for Interview Appointment.

SECRETARY/PA

Experienced Sec/PA required for Chairman/MD of Building Contractors in SW1. Ability to organise social functions. Good appearance, clean driving licence, non-smoker, aged 35/45, speeds 100/60.

Salary c £7,500, company car, profit sharing, good holidays.

CV's to Christine Parkinson, 239 Vauxhall Bridge Rd., London SW1, with daytime telephone number.

UP TO ADMIN? UP TO £8,500

Just shows you don't have to be a secretary to get a well paid office job! In this case, you'd be Administration Services Supervisor for the 220 people in the Head Offices of a very large company just across the River from the City. That means supervising a staff of six – post clerks, receptionist, commissionaire and stationery storeman. And assisting the Administration Manager. Office experience, preferably supervising a small team, is essential, and you should be able to type. 'O' Level English and Maths, self-motivation, organising ability and a sense of humour are important, and you must be well spoken, well turned out, calm under pressure. Age: 27 to 40. Funny hours: 8 am-4 pm. Big company benefits. Ring

01-734 7282
MARY OVERTON
RECRUITMENT LIMITED
35 Piccadilly, London W1V 9PB

ADVERTISING CHALLENGE

7,500 Neg

We are a large International Advertising Agency in Mayfair and are seeking a PA secretary to assist our Media Director in the efficient running of our busy Media Department.

This position would appeal to a well educated intelligent secretary with excellent skills and some experience at a senior level who has the ability to liaise with both our staff and clients using tact and initative.

We offer a friendly working environment sub restaurant/wine bar and co shop. If you would like further details pleace telephone SUSANNA JACOBSEN on 629 9496.

PA/SECRETARY

and a sense of humour

The young director of this large leisure industry near London Bridge is looking for someone with a sense of humour to work closely with him. If you have experience at board level, can cope with important clients constantly and organise travel and functions without losing your cool, this could be the job for you. You will need speeds of 90/50 and be aged up to 35. Salary of up to £8,500 is offered as well as unusual perks.

TEL: 606 1611

Senior Secretaries Recruitment Consultants

SH SECRETARY/PA Fashion House c£7,500

Mature Secretary/PA, good shorthand, required for Administrative Director of leading fashion house, importers/distributors. Scope to work on own initiative. 4 weeks hols. STL. Garment purchase. Free lunches. 9-5.30. 4 pm finish Fridays. 5 minutes Barbican.

Please write giving brief details marked private and confidential to:

Mr B. R. Leach
Garlaine Ltd
90/98 Goswell Rd, EC1

SECRETARY/PA £8,250+

To work for Director of leading Food Importing Company. We are looking for 'A' level education, secretarial experience at high level, ability to work on own initiative, pleasant manners and appearance. Send cv to: Gloria Harrison, 60 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1YJ, marked confidential.

WORDSTAR

If you are a smart, efficient and capable secretary in your early to mid 20s, can use a telex, have some shorthand and experience in Wordstar (machine not important) like to work in a small friendly company and have your own office call Amanda on

629 0952

to arrange an interview.

Salary £7,000 neg.

No Agencies

Lively Secretary £6,700

Responsible position supervising an assistant and providing full secretarial and admin support to four managers involved in a variety of aspects of our lively, dynamic Fund-raising Division. Good shorthand necessary. New position due to relocation, so a very real opportunity to develop the job with good prospects for promotion.

Minimum age 24. Three years' secretarial experience essential. Season ticket loan, 4 weeks' holiday.

Please phone Chris Gittins on 01-253 0253.

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St James's Walk
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(No agencies please)

PA SECRETARY £8,000+

A well qualified secretary is required for the Chairman of this dynamic, international design consultancy. This fast growing company is involved on packaging design and marketing projects with prestigious clients both in the UK and overseas, the ideal candidate should be self motivated, articulate and flexible. Good secretarial skills are essential, as is a well presented manner.

Please send your cv to:

Dalvid Taylor
DAVID TAYLOR DESIGN CONSULTANTS LTD
33 Cork Street
London W1

OFFICE MANAGER to £14000

The person this SW1 company is seeking will already be an office manager with a legal accountancy or consulting background who is accustomed to controlling a team. Numeracy, the ability to deal with VAT, PAYE and accounts receivable are essential, as is the capability to organise workloads and ensure a high standard of work in the team. Preferred age 30s.

Bernadette of Bond St.
Recruitment Consultants
No 55 (next door to Fenwicks)
01-629 1204

Design & Print

Director of West London design and print group requires a PA/Secretary to assist in the day to day administration of the group. Must be able to work on own initiative and handle clients and suppliers. Shorthand and typing essential, age 25+. Salary £7,000+.

Please phone Martin Harris to arrange an interview on

01-731 2115

Director's Secretary/PA

Medium sized company conveniently located in Southwark. Applicants should have good shorthand typing and office management skills. Audio and WP experience an advantage. Presentation, iniative and good organisational ability essential. Preferred age 24-38. Salary indicator £7,500.

Application and CV to: Managing Director, Kestral Data (UK) Ltd, 114-118 Southwark Bridge Rd, London SE1 0EF.

Recruitment Interviewer

If you are ambitious with a minimum of two years' sales experience, this dynamic International Personnel Consultancy will offer you an excellent salary & commission with personal growth. You will have your own clients and be responsible for the development of new business. Call Anne Morris on

01-221 5072
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£11000 + neg

A well known financier is looking for (right arm) someone stable with City experience and above average intelligence and sec. skills. Based SW1, but will be starting up City office in near future. 30+.

01-738 5148

(Rec.Con.) (24hrs)





RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST

Salary £6,500

Required by W1 Solicitors. Some telex. Good appearance, friendly manner and clarity of speech essential. Age 19-30. LV's. 4 weeks holidays and bonus.

Contact Lynne Walters
on 01499 6711
(No agencies)

PERSON FRIDAY c £8000

Develop and learn the business of this young rapidly expanding EC1 Co. from reception and switchboard to WP (will train) and Apple computer – who knows what will happen next? You'll need 50 wpm, accurate typing and at least 5 O levels incl English. Age 22-26

LOVE & TATE APPOINTMENTS
283 0111

SECRETARY/PA

ST JAMES

based firm (near Green Park underground) of Commercial Estate Agents require lively dynamic Secretary/PA for a Partner and Assistant dealing with office lettings and development work. Friendly atmosphere and pleasant working conditions offered in return for intelligence and initiative. No shorthand. Hours 10am-6pm. Starting salary £7,500 pa. Plus LV's. 4 weeks holidays

Contact Angela Rhodes
on 01-629 9100

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ARE YOU: A well presented and organised Secretary?

DO YOU HAVE: Good speeds, a lively personality and a willingness to learn?

ARE YOU WORTH: An excellent starting salary with 4 wks hols. S.T.L & LV's?

YES?: Then phone Peta on
637 7697
Cavendish Personnel
Recr Cons

AMERICAN BANK P.A./SECRETARY £7500–£9500 + Mortgage

We wish to recruit a really Super Senior Secretary. Age 25-35 with excellent skills, smart appearance, and some financial/City experience. This is to join a Senior Vice President and is a prestigious position with real involvement. Languages useful.

Contact Deja Vu
Recruitment Consultants
606 4711

c. £10,000 OVERSEAS

Our client, a multinational consultancy, seeks two Exec P.A. Secs S/T (1) Frankfurt fluent German/ English for general Manager (2) Brussels fluent French/English for M.D. of Personnel. Age 25-40. Imm. start.

Marlene Lerner Personnel Consultants
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01 637 3822

TV W1 £8,400

Sec to Head of Personnel. 5 weeks hols. This is a responsible position with an emphasis on industrial relations and highly confidendial matters so would require a mature personality (23+). Ideally you will be self-motivated, relatively experienced with excellent shorthand and typing (110/70).

Please telephone Debbie today

Misprestige Rec Cons
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+ All Banking benefits

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Call Flexley Recruitment
580 5522

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

required for City office, duties include shorthand and typing, operating a telex, filing, relief reception and additional general office work. Languages would be an advantage, a flexible approach to work is essential. Good prospects.

Write Box No 2382 H The Times

PRACTICE ADMINISTRATOR

required for 3-doctor NHS Practice in SW7. General practice experience an advantage but not essential. Day release course available. £7,500 negotiable. Please apply with full CV to: Mrs S Buckley, 2 Pelham Street, London, SW7.

PA/SECRETARY

Required for busy private general practice in Knightsbridge for 2 Doctors. Bright personality needed to cope with constant rewarding contact with people. Shorthand/typing/word processing essential, previous medical experience helpful but not essential. 9am-6pm.

Salary £7,000 pa

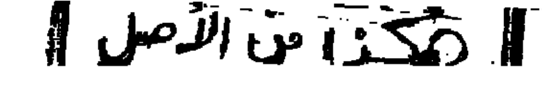
Telephone 01-235 3002

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Property Buyers' Guide

Residential Property

Specialist agents for house-buyers

Estate agents are grand people, as we all know. Without them the property market would grind to a halt, and their reviews of what has happened in the previous year, and of what they think or hope will happen in the coming year, is always good reading.

It is comforting to know that little has changed in the last two generations, and an article in *Country Life* for January 5, 1924, proves that the same fears and hopes we hear now were being expressed then. Messrs Hampton and Sons, in their report for 1923, announced ruefully that the choice residential districts within 15 and 20 miles of London had not been as "fruitful of business as we could have wished", and added, with some foresight, that business must improve Citywards in a considerable measure before the more important kind of place in these districts would achieve a ready sale.

Hamptons were gratified to find an improvement in demand for properties for occupation, as distinct from speculation and resale, and noted the continued demand in London for the country-style of house compared with the old-fashioned town mansion, "whether in Mayfair or less exclusive district".

The piece concluded: "Towards the end of the year there has been a brisk demand and everything points to a livelier market in 1924. It is, however, too early yet to gauge the effect of the political situation and this may prove the dominating factor in next year's business."

The situation is just the same today; the estate agent predicts that the market will improve, and he may be right – but the job of estate agents is to sell houses, so he would, wouldn't he? The emphasis on selling sometimes leaves the potential purchaser at a disadvantage, prey to the estate's agents jargon which, if it does not convince the buyer that the property in question is the fulfilment of a dream, can waste a lot of his time in establishing that it is not.

Estate agents will take on clients who are looking for a new home, but often with reluctance, and sometimes only if the client has a property to sell. Apart from the fact that they are busy selling, there could be a conflict of interest. There are firms which willingly take on both functions, particularly those involved in relocation, but there remains a gap in the property market – catering for the potential buyer – and where there is a gap, it will be filled.

There are now growing up several businesses that specialize in the demands of the purchaser. One such is Property Vision, which will not only look for a house for you, but will take a video film of it to enable you to see whether you want to take the interest further.

The firm is run by two men - William Gething, who spent some years marketing White Horse whisky in Latin America, and Charles Ellingworth, who was a manager with Jardine Matheson in Hongkong.

Gething spent considerable time in the United States and recalls that there was much more emphasis on service to the buyer, and it was very common to pay an agent for buying a property for a client.

"When I came home, I found that the service I had become used to was not available and began to do some research. Market research showed that pople would welcome personal service to help them buy a house and were prepared to pay for it".

The partners are specialists in a specialist field. They concentrate on properties in Hampshire, Berkshire and Wiltshire, valued at £150,000 and above, and will not take on more than 20 clients at a time to ensure that they can give the personal service that is required.

The client has to pay £300 as an initial fee (to show he is serious) and if a successful purchase is made, the firm charges 1 per cent of the purchase price. A time limit of six months is put on the search. " If a client cannot buy in that time, it must mean he does not want to move, or he is looking for something impossible".

Property Vision is in touch with 165 estate agents in the area each week, and finds no difficulty in doing business with them. "We are not trying to take anything away from them, and they will tell us not only what property is for sale but, just as important, what will be coming up for sale. They know that we have serious buyers and will not waste any time", says Gething.

The video film enables the prospective buyer to see clearly where the house is and what surrounds it.

On a more modest scale, there are firms like Find-a-Home, run by two young women – Miranda Bellville and her sister-in-law Sarah. This London-based enterprise took over the goodwill of a similar firm run by a friend.

"We will do absolutely everything, in London and elsewhere, with flats and houses for sale or rent", says Sarah Bellville. Their price range starts at about £100,000, largely because anyone buying below that figure would not normally look for help in finding what they wanted.

In London, they find that the biggest demand comes from single people, often seeking a "decent" flat in central London, although there is a continuing demand for family houses.

Find-a-Home charge a purchaser £200 (refundable) and 1 per cent of the purchase price. For people seeking rented property the cost is £100 (not returnable), 5 per cent of the total rental for a lease of more than 6 months, and 10 per cent if less. Property Vision are at Lamb House, Church Street, London W4, and Find-a-Home, 2 Sparkes Cottages, Graham Terrace, London SW1.

Christopher Warman



Clapham may not be the most fashionable address in London, but the local office of Farrar Stead and Glyn are offering this magnificent double-fronted, detached house in Macaulay Road for £410,000. The house has been completely renovated in the past three years and includes five bedrooms, three bathrooms, drawing-room and dining room panelled with antique Chinese hand painted wallpaper. It has a separate "granny flat" and an adjoining coach house.

Continued on page 30

PERSONAL COLUMNS

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS and IN MEMORIAM £3.25 a line (minimum 3 lines)

Announcements authenticated by the name and permanent address of the sender, may be sent to:

THE TIMES
200 Gray's Inn Road
London
WC1X 8EZ

or telephoned (by telephone subscribers only) to: 01-837 3311 or 01-837 3333

Announcements can be received by telephone between 9.00am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, on Saturday between 9.00am and 12.00noon. (837 3333 only). For publication the following day, phone by 1.30pm.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES, WEDDINGS, etc. on Court and Social Page, £5 a line. 01-837 1234 ext 7714

Court and Social Page announcements can not be accepted by telephone.
Most other classified advertisements can be accepted by telephone. The deadline is 5.00pm 2 days prior to publication (i.e. 5.00 pm Monday for Wednesday). Should you wish to send an advertisement in writing please include your daytime 'phone number.

Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

Psalm 27: 7.

BIRTHS

GILLIBRAND - On January 26th, to Emma (nee Goble) & David a daughter, Frances Sara.

GOODEN. - On December 16th, in Los Angeles, California to Rachel Hood and John Gooden, a son (Sebastian Noel Cavendish).

HOOD - See Gooden.

HORROCKS - On Sat, 18th February at King's Hospital to Naomi and Paul, a son Samuel Richard Weldon, a brother for William.

HUGHES.-On February 10, at Kings College Hospital, to Anita (nee Pyke) ...

DEATHS

STEVENSON-On February 18th, peacefully, in hospital, after a determined struggle against a long illness, Thelma, beloved mother of Pip and dearly loved by Liz and grandchildren Simon, Andrew and Nicola. Funeral service at North Waltham Parish Church on Friday, February 24th at 3 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Wessex Cancer Trust, c/o John Steel and Son Ltd., Chesil House, Winchester.

STOKES. - On February 18, 1984, quietly Bill Stokes, Captain RN, dear husband of Wendy, father of Peter, Michael and Sally, and dear Grampa to Nicholas, Paul, Richard, Emma-Kate and Mark. Funeral on Thursday, February 23, at St Peter's Church, Slinfold, at 10.00 am. No flowers, but donations, if desired, to RNLI.

STOPFORD, Wyndham H. Formerly of Manila, on 9th February in Victoria, BC, Canada.

STUART-SMITH - On February 17th, at 9½ weeks, Hannah Caroline, daughter of Ann and David, sister to Louisa. Funeral service in St. Stephen's Church, Clapham Park, at 3 pm, Monday, February 27th. No flowers, contributions to F.S.I.D., 5th Floor, 4 Grosvenor Place, S.W.1. "Porky Piglet" we love you: thanks be to God.

TOWNEND.-On February 19, 1984, peacefully, Donald Thomas Alfred Townend, D.Sc., C.B.E., aged 86, a much loved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. Cremation Friday, February 24, Randalls Park, Leatherhead at 11 a.m.

WHITEHEAD. - On February 20, 1984, peacefully at her home, 6 Calverley Park, Tunbridge Wells, Ethel Margaret, aged 82 years, beloved wife of John Whitehead, dear mother of Janet and the late Katherine and a loving grandmother. Funeral service at the Church of King Charles the Martyr, Tunbridge Wells, at 3.30 pm on Friday, February 24. No flowers, but if desired donations may be made to the Tunbridge Wells and District branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society, c/o J. W. Pope, 81 St John's Road, Tunbridge Wells.

YATES.-On 16th February, Dora (née Lidbetter), widow of Rex and mother of Joyce Mellor. No flowers. Any donations to Ackworth School.

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Sun at 8.00 with Gwyneth Jones.

CONCERTS

هكذا من الأصل

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.

6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45; a review of the morning papers at 7.18 and 8.18; Mike Smith with the new top twenty records between 7.55 and 8.00; horoscopes at 8.33.

9.00 Tarzan, Lord of the Jungle. Animated adventures of the jungle hero. 9.20 Bellamy on Botany. The first of a ten-part series featuring the ebullient biologist (r) 10.55 Gharbar. Magazine programme for Asian women. Among the topics discussed today is mother tongue teaching for Asian children born in this country. 11.20 Interval.

11.30 Open University: Childhood 5-10: Self-help projects. 11.55 The First Years of Life: Clash! Ends at 12.20.

12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Jim Bacon. 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles). 1.00 Pebble Mill at One with guests Kajagoogoo and Judy Ridgway who begins a series on vegetarian cooking. 1.45 Bod (r).

2.00 Caught in Time. Early home movies, introduced by James Cameron. 2.20 Film: The Ex-Mrs Bradford* (1936) starring William Powell and Jean Arthur. Murder mystery investigated by a surgeon and his estranged mystery writer wife. Directed by Stephen Roberts.

3.35 Cartoon: Bugs Bunny. 3.48 Regional news (not London). 3.50 Magic Roundabout (r). 3.55 Play School, presented by Don Spencer 4.20 The Adventures of Tin Tin (r) 4.25 Jackanory, with Penelope Keith 4.35 Rentaghost (r) 5.00 Newsround with Paul McDowell. 5.10 Moonfleet. Smuggling serial set in a Dorset village in 1850.

5.40 Sixty Minutes includes news at 5.40 from Moira Stuart; weather at 5.45; regional news magazines at 5.55; and the news headlines at 6.38.

6.40 Harty. With Russell on the stage of London's Greenwood Theatre are diminutive comedian Mike Harding and super singer Barbara Dickson.

7.15 Taxi. American comedy series about the drivers of the Sunshine Cab Company of New York. This evening, Bobby returns to the garage with the news that he has a part in a new television series. Little Louie tries to dampen the celebrations.

8.10 Fame. More drama and music from the pupils of the High School for the Performing Arts.

9.00 News with Sue Lawley.

9.25 The Other Half. The story of the marriage between 52-year old choreographer, Gillian Lynne and 30 year old actor, Peter Land.

9.55 Sportsnight introduced by Harry Carpenter includes coverage of the fight between Nick Wilshire and Jimmy Cable for the British light-middleweight championship and highlights of the second one-day cricket international between New Zealand and England.

11.00 Night Music with singer/songwriter Labi Siffre and Dutch instrumentalists, Flairck.

11.40 News headlines and weather.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Nick Owen and Jayne Irving. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; alarm call at 6.40 and 8.45; exercises at 6.50; and 8.55; odd anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; a guest in the Spotlight at 7.20; cartoon at 7.25; Pat Phoenix at 7.40 and 8.45; pop video at 7.55; Ruth Madoc's magic moments at 8.10; Eve Pollard's gossip column at 8.35.

9.03 Roland Rat.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines 9.30 For Schools: (last Wednesday's programmes repeated) Middle English 9.47 Looking after a very young baby 10.04 A little girl's birthday party 10.21 Play: The Rainbow Coloured Disco Dancer, by C P Taylor 10.48 Washington during the great depression of 1932 11.00 All about bricks 11.22 Basic maths: patterns 11.39 The nationalization of the railways in 1948.

12.00 Flicks. Christopher Lillicrap and the Moon Man 12.10 Sounds Like a Story. Mark Wynter with the tale of The Big Fat Pig (r) 12.30 Three Little Words. Quiz game for married couples.

1.00 News 1.20 Thames news 1.30 A Plus. With Mavis Nicholson in the studio is Mel Brooks 2.00 Crown Court: There Was an Old Woman. Continuing the case of the couple accused of allowing the wife's mother to die through neglect.

2.30 A Country Practice. It's wedding bells for Frank and Shirley 3.30 Sons and Daughters. A national transport strike causes problems for the Hamiltons and the Palmers.

4.00 Flicks. A repeat of the programme shown at noon 4.15 Batfink 4.20 Luna. Science fiction serial 4.50 Jangles. A serial about a young girl's determination to become a singer. Starring Hazel O'Connor (r) 5.15 Family Trees. Lighthearted genealogy

5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news.

6.25 Help! Viv Taylor Gee with news about fostering black children.

6.35 Crossroads. Paul Ross is sent packing by Adam Chance.

7.00 The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady. Part one of a 12-episode adaptation of the best selling book (see Choice).

7.30 Coronation Street. Fred Gee has reason to feel smug.

8.00 This Is Your Life. In his usual conspiratorial manner, Eamonn Andrews waits in the wings to surprise another worthy.

8.30 Foxy Lady. Comedy series about a struggling northern newspaper, the Ramsden Reminder, this week under threat from property developers anxious to acquire the Reminder's offices. Starring Diane Keen.

9.00 Minder: A Star is Gorn. Arthur has dreams of being 'the Brian Einstein of West One' when he acquires the master tape of a singer who is top of the pops.

10.00 News.

10.30 Midweek Sports Special. Football and darts, introduced by Brian Moore. There are highlights from one of tonight's cup matches and coverage of the final of the Blackthorn Masters darts international at Oldham.

12.00 Darkroom. A father gives an old crystal set to his son and then realizes that the set can only broadcast old 1940s programmes.

12.20 Night Thoughts from Michael Meacher.



Gillian Lynne and Peter Land: The Other Half (BBC 1 9.25pm)

CHOICE

● Following the surprising but deserved success of the first series of VOICES (Channel 4, 11.00pm) in which the esoteric was argued at an extremely high level of intelligence, a second series begins tonight in the same vein with Ted Honderich, Professor of Philosophy at University College, London, chairing a discussion between John Searle, Professor of Philosophy at the University of California, Berkeley, and Sir John Eccles, a Nobel Prize-winning neurologist, on the relationship between the mind and the brain. On the face of it a programme with a limited audience appeal and I admit to going to the preview with mixed feelings. But I found the cut and thrust of the two antagonists a stimulating experience. On the one hand, Sir John Eccles, a quiet-spoken theist with the most devasting way of answering questions with a single "yes", on the other, Professor Searle, a flamboyant atheist using words I've never heard of or likely to again "now we know that renal secretions synthesize a substance called angiotensin and that the angiotensin gets into the hyperthalmus and causes a series of neuron firings". Obviously he uses the word "we" in the royal sense but thanks to the firm chairmanship of Professor Honderich the flights into the highly technical are kept to a minimum and we are treated to the pleasure of an obvious battle of opposing ideas conducted in a gentlemanly fashion.

● The book that must be on nearly every grandmother's bookself, THE COUNTRY DIARY OF AN EDWARDIAN LADY (ITV 7.00pm) has been skilfully adapted by Elaine Feinstein and Dirk Campbell into 12 parts and stars Pippa Guard as the Edwardian lady, Edith Holden. The series is not just a nature ramble through a 12 month period but contains elements of drama from Miss Holden's year that are not contained in the diary. In tonight's opening episode we learn of the family friction caused by her father's paint and varnish factory in Birmingham going through hard times; that she seems to have the capability to take messages from her late mother for her grieving father; and, with the help of flashbacks, how she came to have such an interest in nature. A gentle opener that bodes well for the series.

BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Freedom and Plenty. 6.30 Man's Religious Quest: Pilgrimage. 6.55 Engineering: Take a Seat. 7.20 Argument on Television: 1. 7.45 Geophysical Techniques. Ends at 8.10.

9.00 Ceefax.

9.10 Daytime on Two: Technical Studies: Heat Treatment. 9.38 Science Workshop. 10.00 You and Me. 10.15 Maths: Enlargement. 10.38 Maths: Geometry. 11.00 A farmer sells a cow. 11.17 The Clarinet. 11.39 Genetic Engineering. 12.05 Part 15 of an Italian conversation course.

12.30 The Cockcroft Report. 12.55 Thinking in Action with Dr Edward De Bono (ends at 1.10) 1.21 France and the French language. 1.38 Health: What's Good for Me? 2.01 Watch 2.18 The Church in the Middle Ages. 2.40 Light and Shadow.

3.00 Ceefax.

5.10 Women Speaking. The second of three programmes made by the Open University in which women discuss the pressures they have experienced in their private and professional lives (r).

5.35 News summary with subtitles.

5.40 Film: Seven Sinners* (1940) starring John Wayne, Marlene Dietrich and Broderick Crawford. Romance comes to naval lieutenant Bruce when a new night club singer arrives at an island base. But his infatuation has repercussions for the island and his career. Directed by Tay Garnett.

7.05 Open Space: Here To Stay. A documentary made by the Mohammed Idrish Defence Campaign on the plight of individuals and families affected by the current immigration laws.

7.40 What on Earth...? Wildlife quiz presided over by Michael Jordan.

8.05 Sailor. Part six of the 11-programme series that eavesdrops on the officers and men of the aircraft carrier, Ark Royal (r).

8.35 Geoffrey Smith's World of Flowers. Mr Smith examines the history of the Violet and Pansy.

9.00 Pot Black 84. The final match of the first round is between South African billiards champion, Silvino Francisco and former world snooker champion, Ray Reardon.

9.30 Strangers and Brothers. Cherie Lungie joins the cast as Margaret Davidson, a friend of one of Lewis's colleagues with whom he forms a relationship after the death of his wife.

10.20 Newsnight.

11.05 Cricket. Highlights from the second one-day game between New Zealand and England.

11.45 Open University: Probability and Statistics: Chance 12.10 Images of the Third World. Ends at 12.40.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 People's Court. Judge Wagner sits in judgment on the case of the Fed-up Photographer and the Vexed Vette Owner.

5.30 Making the Most Of . . . Therese Birch with another programme in the series designed to help those with leisure time but not the wherewithal to take advantage of the situation. This week John Brown, a sculptor and teacher from York, demonstrates clay modelling; there is a keep fit session; and advice on what to look for when on a country ramble. For the more technically minded a new and inexpensive knitting machine is put through its paces (r).

6.00 Wayne and Shuster. The Canadian comics with their own brand of wry humour this week take a look at the world of television commercials.

6.30 Flashback: Sadness and Gladness 1924-34. This third programme of the series takes a peep at local authority publicity of the Twenties and Thirties. In the Glasgow-made Sadness and Gladness two young girls from a working class background are shown enjoying themselves at a Necessitous Children's Holiday Camp. From London, Bermondsey's Public Health Propaganda Department extol the virtues of their revolutionary public health services which were implemented in 1924 by the newly-elected Labour council.

7.00 Channel Four News with Peter Sissons includes a special report from Jane Corbin on the history and aims of the National Council for Civil Liberties which is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

7.50 Comment. The political slot this week is filled by Donald Stewart, president of the Scottish National Party and Member of Parliament for the Western Isles.

8.00 Brookside. In the Grant household all is not sweetness and light with Karen receiving a letter that poses her a moral dilemma.

8.30 Diverse Reports. Current affairs series that explores political, social and economic issues from diverse points of view.

9.00 Film: Light Years Away (1981) starring Trevor Howard and Mick Ford. Set in Ireland in the year 2000 the story concerns 25-year-old Jonas who becomes intrigued by Yoshka Poliakoff, an aged Russian immigrant, who is working on one of the great secrets of the universe from his base in a derelict garage. Directed by Alain Turner.

11.00 Voices: Whose Mind is it Anyway? The first of a new series. Ted Honderich is the chairman of a cerebral discussion between Sir John Eccles and Professor John Searle on the relationship between the mind and the brain (see Choice).

12.00 Closedown.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing; Weather.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.25, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Midweek: Libby Purves and studio guests.†
10.00 News; Gardeners' Question Time visits Staffordshire.
10.30 Morning Story: 'Father's New Hobby' by Hill Slavid. Read by Cyril Shaps.
10.45 Daily Service.
11.00 News; Travel; Baker's Dozen with Richard Baker.
11.48 Myself When Young. Harry Soan Looks back at his youth (3) Schooldays.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer advice.
12.37 The Killing Season by Arthur Jefferson, dramatised for radio in six parts (6). 12.55 Weather; Programme News.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour. The guest of the week is Ann Stirland, who is senior consultant anthropologist to the Mary Rose Trust. There is also a feature on Mary Seacole, forgotten heroine of the Crimean war, and Judi Dench reads the final instalment of Keith Waterhouse's Mrs Pooter's Diary.
3.00 Afternoon Theatre: The Spine-Chillers. David Campion's play Mrs M. with Rosemary Leach, Anne Jameson and Roger Hume. Mrs Meadowsweet runs a charming guest-house in Devon. But two newcomers, Madge and Arthur, quickly sense that something is not quite right. For one thing, they have fewer worries, and do not bicker as much as they used to . . .
3.47 Time for Verse. Poetic variations on biblical stories. By Johnn Mole.
4.00 News; Just after Four. Ian Grimble on roots.
4.10 File on 4. With Roger Finnigan.
4.40 Story time: 'Atlantic City Proof' by Christopher Cook Gilmore (13). Read by the author.
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 The six o'clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 Funny Peculiar.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Checkpoint. A weekly investigation into listeners' problems of unfair dealings and injustice. With Roger Cooke.
7.45 Elgar. The last of three portraits in words and music of the great English composer who died 50 years ago; by Jerold Northrop Moore. Julian Glover plays Elgar.†
8.45 Analysis. Adrian Hamilton reports on Musical Chairs – City Style in which he examines the repercussions in the Stock Exchange to the ruling that brokers should no longer be paid fixed commissions for their services. Why should the ending of a restrictive practice cause such a flurry of activity?
9.30 High Street Africa Revisited with Anthony Smith on his motorcycle.
9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes an interview with Mel Brooks.
10.15 A Book at Bedtime: "The Lost Domain" by Alain Fournier (8). Read by Michael Williams.
10.30 The World Tonight.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Close. Shipping Forecast.

England: VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30 Weather; Travel. 10.45-12.00 For Schools: 10.45 Radio History. 11.05 Singing Together 15. 11.25 Movement and Drama 2. 11.45 Contact. 1.55-2.00pm Listening Corner. 2.00-3.00 For Schools: 2.00 The Music Box. 2.15 Introducing Geography. 2.35 Pictures in Your Mind (Music). 2.45 Nature. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-11.30 Study on Four: L'italia dal Vivo. 11.30-12.10am Open University: 11.30 Music Interlude. 11.50 The Uses of Learning. 12.30-1.10 Schools Night-Time Broadcasting: 12.30 Deutsch fur die Oberstufe (15 & 16).

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Your Midweek Choice: part one. Smetena's Sarka (Ma Vlast); Arensky's Suite No 1 for two pianos (Adolf and Mikhail Gotlieb); Dvorak's String Quartet in A flat, Op 105 (Prague String Quartet).† 8.00 News.
8.05 Your Midweek Choice: part two. Haydn's Divertimento in C (London Baroque Ensemble); Soler's Sonata in B minor, R 10 (Gilbert Rowland, harpsichord); Vivaldi's Gloria in D major, RV 589 (Margaret Marshall, sop; Ann Murray, mezzo; and English Chamber Orch).† 9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Herbert Howells. The Procession, Op 36 (London Phil); various songs sung by Philip Langridge (tenor), with Eric Parkin (piano); Ralph's Galliard (Howells's Clavichord), played by Ruth Dyson; Elegy Op 15 (Herbert Downes, viola New Philharmonia), and the Partita (Robert Gower, organ).†
10.00 Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields: Weber's Symph No 2; and Tippett's Concerto for double string orchestra.†
10.45 Beethoven: Jacques Klein (piano) plays the Sonata in E flat, Op 7.†
11.15 Chicago Symphony Orchestra: Bach (arr Schoenberg) Schmucke dich; Komm, Gott Schopfer; Stravinsky (Symphony of Psalms); Sibelius (Swan of Tuonela); and Panufnik (Sinfonia Sacra).†
12.15 Concert Hall: flute and piano recital by Margaret Campbell and John Lenehan. Fauré's Sicilienne; Handel's Sonata in F; Madeleine Dring's Wib Waltz; and Reinecke's Sonata: Undine.† 1.00 News.
1.05 John Wain's Jazz: Records of some of Louis Armstrong's trombonists. They include Kid Ory, J C Higginbotham, Jack Teagarden, and Trummy Young.
1.30 Matinée Musicale: BBC Concert Orch, with Kate Elmitt and John Railton (two pianos). Michael Hurd's overture to an unwritten comedy; Lalo's Valse de la cigarette (Namouna); Gordon Jacob's Variations on a theme of Schubert; Fauré's suite Masques et Bergamasques; Vaughan Williams's Fantasia on Greensleeves; and Arnold's Concerto for two pianos and orch.†
2.30 Orford String Quartet: Haydn's Quartet in F minor, Op 20 No 5; Lutoslawski's Quartet; and Beethoven's Quartet in E minor, Op 59, No 2.†
4.00 Choral Evensong: live – from Hereford Cathedral. Organist and master of the Chorister is Roy Massey.† 4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: another of Roger Nichols's selections.†
6.30 Debut: A Radio 3 "first" for Nicholas Logie (viola), with Richard Greenwood (piano). Stravinsky's Elegie for solo viola; and Schumann's Marchenbilder.†
7.00 The Noisemaker: A feature about the Grand Futurist Concerts of Noises at the Coliseum in London in June 1914. With David Ashford as Luigi Russolo, whose theories of a "music of noise" anticipated the work of Stockhausen and John Cage. Written by Andrew MacKay.
7.30 City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra; concert. Part one. With Ida Haendel (violin). First broadcast performance of Britten's An American Overture; and Elgar's Violin Concerto. Director from Royal Festival Hall.†
8.30 Six Continents: foreign radio broadcasts, monitored by the BBC.
8.50 City of Birmingham SO: concert. Part two. Nielsen's Symph No 4 (The Inextinguishable).†
9.35 Barnes's People: The Right Time and Place. The third in this series of duologues, by Peter Barnes. With Claire Bloom and Irene Worth. When a suicidal woman bursts into the office of Dr Greenslade, of the Friends of the Suicidal, it is the doctor who is first to climb out on to the eighth floor window ledge.
9.50 Schubert: Paratore Piano Trio play the Grand Duo.†
10.30 The Genius of Venice: Secular chamber music of the 16th and 17th centuries. Performed by Emma Kirkby (sop), David Thomas (bass) and the Consort of Musicke.†
11.15 News. Until 11.18. VHF only – Open University: 6.35-6.55am Open Forum: Students' Magazine. 11.20-11.40pm Education for Adults.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 9.0pm): major bulletins: 7.00am, 8.00, 1.00pm, 5.00 and 12.00 midnight; headlines: 5.30, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30am (mf/mw).
4.00am Bill Rennells.† incl 4.02; 5.02 Cricket. 5.30 Ray Moore† incl 6.02 Cricket. 7.30 Terry Wogan† incl 8.31 Racing Bulletin. 10.00 Jimmy Young† 12.00pm Steve Jones† incl 1.05 Sport. 2.00 Gloria Hunniford† incl 2.02; 3.02 Sport. 3.30 Music All The Way† 4.00 David Hamilton† incl 4.02; 5.05 Sport. 6.00 John Dunn† incl 6.02 Sport; 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 8.00 Soccer Special: Commentary on the top match of the night. 9.30 Listen to the Band.† Charlie Chester with the Parc and Dare Band (continued from VHF). 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 Give Us A Conch! Paddy Feeney presents a natural history quiz. 10.30 Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the Memory. 11.00 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (stereo from midnight). 1.00am Patrick Lunt presents Nightride.† 3.00 Don Revie has a word with Williams: Don Revie talks to Gerald Williams about some of the achievements and setbacks of his career. 3.30-4.00 Black Magic† with Stanley Black.†

Radio 1

News on the half-hour from 6.30am until 9.30pm and then 12.0 midnight (mw/mw).
6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, incl 12.30 Newsbeat. 7.00 David Jensen. 10.00-12.00 John Peel.† VHF Radios 1 and 2: 4.00am With Radio 2. 8.00pm Hit List. 8.30 BBC Radio Orchestra. 9.15 Listen to the Band. 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Let There Be Drums. 7.45 Report on Religion. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Peebles' Choice. 8.30 Yes Minister. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Anything for a Laugh. 10.15 Rock Back the Clock. 10.30 The Seven Deadly Sins. 10.50 Recording of the Week. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 A Sense of Place. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Nature Notebook. 12.25 The Farming World. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 1.30 I Know It's Here Somewhere 1.45 Edward Elgar: The Making of a Composer. 2.15 Report on Religion. 2.30 Yes Minister. 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Rock Salad. 4.45 The World Today 5.00 World News. 5.09 Monitor. 5.25 New Ideas. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 8.15 Short Story. 8.30 Jazz for the Asking. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 A Sense of Place. 11.30 Top Twenty. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Monitor. 12.45 Yes Minister. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Anna of the Five Towns. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 Assignment. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 London's Concert Tradition. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Classical Record Review. 5.45 The World Today.

(All times in GMT)

BBC1 Wales: 12.57pm-1.00 News of Wales headlines. 3.48-3.50 News of Wales headlines. 5.55 Wales Today. 11.40 News and Weather. Scotland: 12.56pm-1.00 The Scottish News. 4.35-4.45 The House That Joe Built. 4.45-5.00 A' Cheud Turus. 5.55 Scotland: Sixty minutes. 11.40 News and Weather. Northern Ireland: 12.57pm-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.48-3.50 Northern Ireland News. 5.55 Scene around Six. 11.00-11.35 Deirdre. 11.35 News and Weather. England: 5.55pm Regional news magazines. 11.45 Close.

S4C Starts 2.00pm Beth, Sut, Pam, Pryd A Ble? 2.20 Ffalabalam 2.35 Hyn I Fyd 2.55 Interval 3.15 Years Ahead 4.00 Tom Keating on Impressionism 4.25 People's Court 4.55 Pictiwrs Bach 5.00 Smyrffs 5.30 Dick Van Dyke Show 6.00 Brookside 6.30 Bewitched 7.00 Newyddion Saith 7.30 Y Filltir Sgwar 8.00 Gwraidd Y Gainc 8.30 Y Byd Ar Bedwar 9.00 Film: Incredible Sarah: Glenda Jackson plays Sarah Bernhardt 10.50 First Christian 11.45 Land of Bitterness and Pride 12.55am Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35-7.00 Crossroads. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend: Dionne Warwick. 12.30 am Fish Shop, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Joe 90. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30-7.00 Crossroads. 12.00 Preview. 12.30am Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 9.25 am-9.30 Day Ahead. 1.20 am-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.30-4.00 Crazy World of Sport. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.35-7.00 Crossroads. 12.00 News. Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 6.35-7.00 Crossroads 12.00 News. Closedown.

HTV As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Vintage Quiz 1.20-1.30 News 2.30 Mysteries of Edgar Wallace* 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 6.00 News 6.35-7.00 Crossroads 12.00 Tow of Us 12.30am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.35 Wales at Six.

TVS As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crown Court. 1.20 News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 Rules. 2.10 Miracles Take Longer. 2.40 Mr and Mrs. 3.10 News. 3.50-4.00 A to Z. 6.00-6.35 Coast to Coast. 12.00 Profile. 12.30am Company. Closedown.

TSW As London except: 1.20-1.30 News 5.15 Gus Honeybun 5.20-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Today South West 6.30-7.00 Scene South West 12.00 Preview 12.30am Postscript, Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crown Court. 1.20 Nws. 1.30 Three Little Words. 2.00 Miracles Take Longer. 2.30-3.30 We'll Meet Again. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 News. 12.00 Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News 3.30-4.00 Adventurer 5.10 Action Line 5.20-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Scotland Today 6.30-7.00 Report 11.35 Late Call 11.40 Newhart 12.10am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35-7.00 Crossroads. 12.00 Barney Miller. 12.30am Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.25-130 Where The Jobs Are. 2.30-3.30 Laurel and Hardy* 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life. 12.00 Countryside Christian, Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 1.[illegible] pm Granada Reports. 1.30-2.00 Exchange Flags. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 6.00 This is Your Right 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 12.00 Profiles in Rock: The Who. 12.40 am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.30 Drama 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.35-7.00 Crossroads. 10.30 Scotsport. 11.35 Adventurer. 12.05 am Harvest Jazz. 12.35 News, Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

Entertainments

US Marines begin retreat from Lebanon

From Robert Fisk
Beirut

Without any attempt to prevent the Muslim militias taking possession of their sophisticated underground fortifications around Beirut airport, the American Marines who came to Lebanon 18 months ago with such high hopes of restoring sovereignty to the country began their retreat yesterday in squadrons of Sea Stallion helicopters that airlifted both men and machines out to the US Sixth Fleet every 15 minutes throughout the day.

As if to emphasize their military failure, Israeli aircraft flew high over the Americans' last positions during the morning to bomb villages and towns now held by Druze and Palestinian guerrillas high in the mountains to the east.

No representative of the Lebanese Government – no symbol of the authority they came here to support – turned up at the airport to bid farewell to the first Marines to leave or to commiserate with them on the sacrifice they paid in vain for Lebanon: 259 dead since September 1982.

Gunmen riding motorcycles along the coastal highway watched without emotion as the giant helicopters freighted the first-line troops out to the American warships that steamed along the horizon. It was a melancholy day.

By Sunday, all 1,300 Marines based around the airport are expected to have left Lebanon. They have no intention of destroying the deep underground bunkers – made up of containers sunk into the earth beside the airport runways – in which they have lived for the past three months. "Anyone who wants them is welcome to them", a young Marine officer said.

A military commander of the Amal militia dismissively announced that his organization did not even want the American bunkers; for the past two weeks the Marines in any case have been totally encircled by the victorious Muslim militias of west Beirut.

The steady disintegration and withdrawal of the multinational force is now creating great anxiety in west Beirut where rumours that Israeli troops were storming ashore at Khalde just south of the airport on Monday night started a panic among thousands of civilians in the southern suburbs of the capital. The reports, disseminated by the Phalangist Voice of Lebanon radio, also claimed that an Israeli gunboat was shelling the Chatila Palestinian camp.

All the broadcasts proved to be untrue but there is a growing fear in the west of the capital that the Israelis, unable to rid themselves of the unfounded suspicion that Palestine Liberation Organization battalions are reassembling in Beirut, may soon bomb the city itself, just as they did in 1981 and 1982.

Israeli patrols far north of the Israeli front line at the Awali river and this week's air raid on Damour are regarded by the Druze as a warning not to allow Palestinian guerrillas to infiltrate Beirut or the countryside south of the capital.

"There is no evidence that armed Palestinians are in the city or along the battlefront to the south. Israeli armour south of Damour has prevented the Druze and Shia Muslim militias from advancing farther down the coastal highway although they still intend to consolidate a small pocket of territory nominally controlled by Lebanese Government troops in the Kharoub region.



Life goes on: Armed men on patrol in Beirut are a common sight (above) but a money changer finds a customer on a street corner for more mundane matters. (Photographs: Judah Passow).





Massive Israeli show of strength

Continued from page 1

AK47 rifle, aware that the column was intended also to give encouragement to beleaguered Christians now tenuously holding positions between the Awali and Damour.

It was not until yesterday afternoon, 24 hours later, that Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, confirmed that a "bigger than usual" Israeli column had been operating for a day and a night north of the Awali. Aware of the controversial nature of the move, Mr Arens emphasized that the troops had returned to the defence line by sunset. But he said that such patrolling would continue.

On Monday, the Israeli column was occasionally cheered by the hundreds of frightened-looking Lebanese Christian refugees sitting in an assortment of overloaded cars, trucks, and vans waiting to enter southern Lebanon to join the 20,000 of their co-religionists who have fled south from the latest fighting.

Many are now living in public buildings or crammed into Christian towns like Jezzine, preferring not to remain in Muslim-dominated Sidon for fear of future sectarian bloodshed. Many told me they had fled from three Christian areas a few miles north of the Awali now being shelled nightly by Druze artillery in the hills.

As the tanks clanked past the small car being driven by Mr. Elias Butros, an electrical engineer from a Christian town in the Chouf, each one shook the giant, gold-plated chandelier strapped precariously on top his vehicle. It was all that the 50-year-old Christian had managed to salvage from his new villa.

"For the Christians, the army is finished. We did not want to stay fighting any longer," explained Mr Tony Cessian, an unshaven man who appeared to have very little stomach for a fight with anyone. Asked where he was going he replied: "Anywhere. I am going south."

Throughout southern Lebanon, there is confusion about Israel's intentions, reinforced by this apparent switch in military strategy north of the Awali. Mr Mohammed Ghaddar, spokesman for the Amal Muslim militia in Sidon, claimed angrily that only an Israeli withdrawal would end the rapidly mounting resentment against the Israelis among the Shia Muslim majority in southern Lebanon

Leading article, page 15

Frank Johnson in Iowa

Upstaged by the old sportscaster

The day of the Iowa caucuses dawned, and by the afternoon President Reagan was in the State campaigning. On the Republican side, Mr Reagan's candidature for the Presidency was uncontested. But there were eight Democratic candidates. The Iowa caucuses then, had nothing to do with Mr Reagan, and were all about the eight Democrats, which was why Mr Reagan descended on Iowa.

With television pictures being projected to the rest of America of eight Democrats against the background of one of the most wholesome parts of the nation, the Leader of the Free World could not stand idly by. He arrived and explained at once what a relief it was to get out of Washington.

Meanwhile, the eight Democrats were trying to prove that they could get him out of Washington permanently. Threatened by all this, Mr Reagan responded by returning to the radio station in Des Moines to meander with unstoppable amiability about his days as a sports announcer there in the 1930s, the event being televised live.

The Democrats were appalled by this ruthless presidential initiative. I'm surprised at the White House. They're taking this President, who's not had a good two weeks, and they're using him." Thus Mr Patrick Caddell, the adviser to Mr Hart.

Mr Caddell was a lugubrious man disguised behind a black beard. He was rather insultingly described as "Strategist for President Carter", akin to being described as Strategist for the Argentine infantry at Port Stanley. Perhaps that was why he was lugubrious and disguised by a black beard. In any case, he seemed rather a killjoy.

For the rest of us were entranced by Mr Reagan at the radio station. They had set it out just as it was in that arcadian time when he was there.

Excitedly, we all awaited the President's return to the small studio. The man who now does his job as sports announcer reverently showed us around. "Here's where he did the the Wheaties commercials." he explained.

The President suddenly ambled in, positioned himself lovingly behind the old microphone, inquired as to whether there was much news today, explained that everything coming in from the airport "looked so natural" just as it was in the old days, was wired up for television and, heeding the call that we were on the air, started to reminisce with a vengeance.

"You used to read from the running baseball scores coming over during the game and make out the station. Was doing a commentary live from the game, didn't you, Mr President?" asked the man who now does Mr Reagan's job (in the radio station, that is).

Mr Reagan chuckled naughtily. You see, he confessed, Curlie Whatdale used to sit behind the glass over there typing while the details of a game came in from Western Union. Curlie would slip a piece of paper under the glass while you were at the microphone. It would contain just a couple of figures, that's all, it was a kind of code.

Mr Reagan then launched into a sample of his commentary, which posed difficulties for the Briton ignorant of the game. Adopting the excited tone of the 1930s sports commentator, the President explained that, with only Curlie's code to go on, he would say something like "Dean comes out of the wind up. Here comes the pitch, and its a hard-hit ball down to second base. So and so goes after the ball, picks it up, puts it over the first just in time for the out. All this time you were waiting for the next one from Curlie.

"All he would be S.I.C., which meant you see. strike, one, call. So you'd say: "He's got the sign, comes out of the wind up, here's the pitch and its a call strike breaking over the outside corner."

Mr Reagan nodded his head almost in amused disbelief that it was so long ago. How did he see his role as sports announcer, the present incumbent asked Mr Reagan with appropriate solemnity – an improvement on the more boring question as to how he sees his role as President.

"I always had out there a listener. I've tried to paint a picture ... I had the long blue shadow coming over the field. I had the chill wind coming over the stadium ... They were good days." he concluded. "Sorry I rambled on," he said after we went off the air.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh attend a Luncheon at the Bank of England, 1.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, attends a reception at St James's Palace for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, 11.30 to 12.30 and 3.15 to 4.15; and later, as Patron of the Sail Training Association, attends the premiere of an STA promotional film at Britannic House, Moor Lane, EC2, 6.

The Princess of Wales, Patron of the British Red Cross Youth, visits the National Headquarters of the Society, Grosvenor Crescent, SW1, 10.45.

Prince Michael of Kent leaves for Canada, to attend Seventy-fifth Anniversary celebrations of first powered flight within the Commonwealth, at Sydney, Nova Scotia, departs from Heathrow, 9.35.

New exhibitions

Printmakers Circle: an exhibition of screen prints and lino cuts; Tunbridge Wells Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Mount Pleasant, Tunbridge Wells; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 9.30 to 5, closed Sun (until March 6).

Acrylics and pastels by Wendy Williams; Hereford City Museum, Board Street, Hereford; Tues to Fri 10 to 6, Thur 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4, closed Sun and Mon (until March 10).

The artist and the castle; Newport Museum and Art Gallery, John Frost Square, Newport, Gwent; Mon to Thurs 10 to 5.30, Fri 10 to 4.30, Sat 9.30 to 4 (until March 10).

Etching by Bevis Sale; Prescot Museum, 34 Church Street, Prescot, Lancashire; Tues to Sat 10 to 5 (until March 10).

Last chance to see

Paintings from the Robert Edmiston Bequest, including work by Lauder, Henderson, Brown, East and Kay; Maclaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr; 11 to 5 (ends today).

Fire and Smoke, an exhibition of Raku pottery; Walsall Museum and Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, Walsall; 10 to 6 (ends today).

Talks, lectures.

The life of Arthur Ransome, by Hugh Brogan, Oxford Book Association, Clarendon Press Centre, Walton Street, Oxford, 8.

The modification of Materials by Ion Implantation and ion beam mixing, by Dr G. Dearnaley, Large Lecture Theatre, Physics Poynting Building, Birmingham University, 11.

India and Britain, by J. Calder, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 2.

Music

Recital by the Penna Trio, Museum and Art Gallery, Chequer Road, Doncaster, 1.

1. Recital by Mezzoforte, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.

Anniversaries

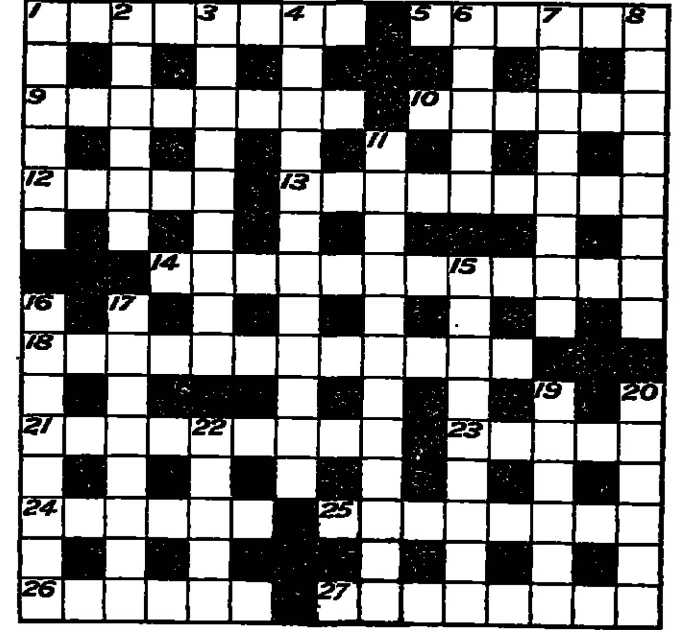
Births: George Washington, 1st president of the United States, 1789-97, Westmoreland County, Virginia, 1732; Arthur Schopenhauer, philosopher, Danzig (Gdansk), 1788; James Russell Lowell, poet and diplomat, Cambridge, Massachussets, 1819; Robert Baden-Powell, 1st Baron Baden Powell of Gilwell, founder of the Scout movement, London, 1857; Heinrich Hertz, physicist, Hamburg, 1857; Norman Lindsay, artist and novelist, Creswick, Australia, 1879; Eric Gill, sculptor, type designer and engraver, Brighton, 1882; Edna St Vincent Millay, poet and dramatist, Rockland, Maine, United States, 1892.

Deaths: Jean-Baptist Corot, painter, Paris, 1875; Sir Charles Lyell, geologist, London, 1875; Hugo Wolf, composer, Vienna, 1903

National Day

The small pear-shaped island of St Lucia in the Windward Island group of the West Indies today celebrates the fifth anniversary of its independence from Britain. With a population of about 120,000, the mainstay of the economy is almost exclusively agricultural, with bananas far and away the biggest export.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,361



ACROSS

1 Iberian leaders in terrible tirade such as this (8).
5 A comment to take notice of (6).
9 Expectation of a probable customer (8).
10 Two first-class shots, they say, secured this Asian bird (6).
12 Subject that takes the stuffing out of most he-men (5).
13 Looking dismal we plead for one outside Ohio (9).
14 Maybe Jack's rank in the Church? (12).
18 21, possibly, is part of the illustration (12).
21 Design advertisement found among directions for the walk (9).
23 Last character to get an honour, years back (5).
24 A product of the freeze? It depends (6).
25 One who absconds – gone with the wind, presumably (8).
26 Perhaps 'e sings a sort of rock (6).
27 A distress signal about most effective fire protection (8).

DOWN

1 Pit overseer with record in business performance (6).
2 Farthest point reached by a Continental river-horse (6).
3 Make another introduction, as does *I do* (9).
4 Support Prom conductor's valet – though an uncouth fellow (12).
6 Change due under the Spanish dodge (5).
7 Fare suitable for the theatre gallery? (8).
8 Irish scene of flying fur (8).
11 Ability to respond positively when organized vice is sensed (12).
15 Security device for those at sea (9).
16 Gift of iron hoop (8).
17 Cetacean loses nothing from deficient equilibrium (8).
19 Musicians set about former Head of Television (6).
20 Mustachioed type ate oysters with chips perhaps (6).
22 Strong man in position of cobbler, almost (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,360

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 12

New books – hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:
As I Please, by Jimmy Reid (Mainstrean, £9.95).
Bright Darkness, the poetry of Lord Byron presented in the context of his life and times, by Anne Fleming (Nottingham Court Press, £9.95).
Donitz, the Last Fuehrer, by Peter Padfield (Gollancz, £12.95).
Eisenhower the Soldier, 1890-1952, by Stephen E. Ambrose (Allen and Unwin, £12.50).
Ninety-Nine Novels, The Best in English since 1939, a personal choice by Anthony Burgess (Allinson and Busby, £6.95, a paperback, £2.95).
Rutherford, Simple Genius, by David Wilson (Hodder and Stoughton, £14.95).
Stranger on the Square, by Arthur and and Cynthia Koestler (Hutchinson, £9.95).
The History of Ancient Israel, by Michael Grant (Weidenfeld and Nicolson, £16.50).
The Pre-Raphaelites (Tate Gallery, £25, Penguin, £10.95).
The Rise of the French Communist Party 1920-1947, by Edward Mortimer (Faber, £30).

The papers

Several newspapers criticize the Labour MP Miss Joan Maynard for questioning the use of the word "terrorist" to describe members of the IRA.

The Daily Mirror says: "In her world, the left is always right and the right is always wrong. She is our Joan of Marx . . . more silly than sinister.

"Miss Maynard says she doesn't endorse violence. Maybe not. But she does the next worst thing, she excuse it.

"Terrorism can be simply defined. It is the attempt to gain by violence what cannot be achieved through the ballot box. That is the IRA'S unwavering object."

The Sun, which describes Miss Maynard as Mr Wedgwood Benn's close aide, says her sole importance is "as a sympton of the sickness which is destroying Labour 'as a responsible, decent, political force."

The paper adds: "The Labour Party is still *hell-bent* for destruction. The only difference now is that the shaky hand at the controls belongs to *Neil Kinnock*."

The Daily Express, which says Miss Maynard is usually known as "Stalin's nanny", says she is guilty of "appalling, benighted cant".

The paper says: "She endorses Irish 'freedom fighters', but not the way they have 'freed' hundreds from the irksome bother of living."

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.62	1.54
Austria Sch	28.70	27.10
Belgium Fr	85.50	81.50
Canada $	1.87	1.80
Denmark Kr	14.80	14.10
Finland Mkk	8.72	8.32
France Fr	12.39	11.89
Germany DM	4.03	3.85
Greece Dr	165.00	155.00
Hongkong $	11.60	11.00
Ireland Pt	1.2775	1.2715
Italy Lira	2480.00	2380.00
Japan Yen	354.00	338.00
Netherlands Gld	4.56	4.34
Norway Kr	11.60	11.00
Portugal Esc	199.00	189.00
South Africa Rd	1.96	1.82
Spain Pta	229.00	220.00
Sweden Kr	12.05	11.45
Switzerland Fr	3.33	3.16
USA $	1.49	1.44
Yugoslavia Dnr	210.00	200.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 342.6.

London: The *FT* Index closed up 6.8 at 819.3

Roads

London and South-east: A11: Reconstruction work at Bow Road, between Bromley High Street and the Bow flyover; eastbound carriageway reduced between 8.30am and 12.30pm, westbound between 1pm and 4pm. A40: Construction of slip road for westbound carriageway of Western Avenue, outside Unigate House, east of Park Royal (Ealing); westbound carriageway reduced to two lanes. A235: Water main repairs on Brighton Road at junction with Sanderstead Lane, Croydon; single lane traffic in each direction.

Wales and west: A30: Improvement work between Exeter and Launceston, temporary traffic lights at Whiddon Down, Sticklepath, Lobhill, Lewdown. A417: Roadworks at St Oswald's Road, Gloucester; diversions via new northern bypass. A394: Improvement work between Penryn and Helston, at Longdowns, Cornwall; temporary traffic lights.

Midlands and East Anglia: A47: Roadworks with traffic signals at Postwich, between Norwich and Yarmouth. A45: Various lane closures along Cambridge bypass. A45: Lane closures east and westbound along Bury St Edmunds bypass.

North: A534: Sewer laying at Crewe Road, Winterley, Sandbach, Cheshire; single lane traffic with traffic lights. A6: Sewer replacement at Kirkland, Kendal, Cumbria. A628: Improvement work to bridge over river Don at Thurleston, South Yorkshire; single lane traffic controlled by traffic signals.

Scotland: A71: Roadworks east of Wilkieston, Midlothian; one lane only. A68: Road subsidence north of Dalkeith, Midlothian; all southbound traffic and northbound traffic over 30 cwt diverted, remaining northbound traffic reduced to a single lane. A7: Roadworks two and a half miles north of Stow, Borders; one lane only, controlled by temporary lights.

Information supplied by the AA.

Flights to Spain

Industrial action threatens flights by the Spanish airline Iberia from London's Heathrow airport today. Passengers are advised to check with the airline before setting out. If the action went ahead it could be a go-slow and only a few of the eight daily flights from Heathrow could be affected.

The dispute is between Spanish unions and management involved in annual pay negotiations.

Weather forecast

Pressure will be low over Britain with most districts having showers.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S England, East Anglia, Midlands (E): Mostly cloudy, showers, perhaps longer outbreaks of rain; wind SW, becoming N later, moderate or fresh; max temp 6 to 7C (43 to 45F).

E, NE, central N England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mostly cloudy, occasional showers, misty at times; winds E to SE, moderate or fresh; max temp 5 to 6C (41 to 43F).

Midlands (W), N Wales, NW England, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: Showers becoming scattered, sunny or clear periods, misty later, perhaps frost later; wind N to NW, fresh at first, decreasing light to moderate; max temp 6C (43F).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Showers, sunny or clear intervals; wind NW, fresh or strong, decreasing moderate later; max temp 8C (46F).

Lake District, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Sunny or clear periods, scattered showers; wind NE, moderate; max temp 6 to 7C (43 to 45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Showers dying out, rain later in the NW, overnight fog and frost in places; temperatures close to normal.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind SE, backing E, fresh or strong; sea rough. Straits of Dover: Wind S, strong, becoming variable, fresh; sea moderate or rough. English Channel (E): Wind W or NW, strong or gale; sea very rough. St George's Channel: Wind NW, gale; sea very rough. Irish Sea: Wind N, fresh or strong; sea rough.



Sun rises: 7.02 am | Sun sets: 5.27 pm
Moon sets: 9.36 am | Moon rises: 1.01 am tomorrow
Last Quarter: Tomorrow.

Lighting-up time

London 5.57 pm to 6.30 am
Bristol 6.07 pm to 6.40 am
Edinburgh 6.00 pm to 6.51 am
Manchester 6.02 pm to 6.42 am
Penzance 6.21 pm to 6.50 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	6	43	Guernsey	r	5	41
Birmingham	f	8	46	Inverness	c	5	41
Blackpool	r	6	43	Jersey	f	7	45
Bristol	c	6	43	London	c	8	46
Cardiff	r	5	41	Manchester	c	6	43
Edinburgh	c	4	39	Newcastle	c	5	41
Glasgow	c	5	41	Ronaldsway	c	6	43

Highest and lowest

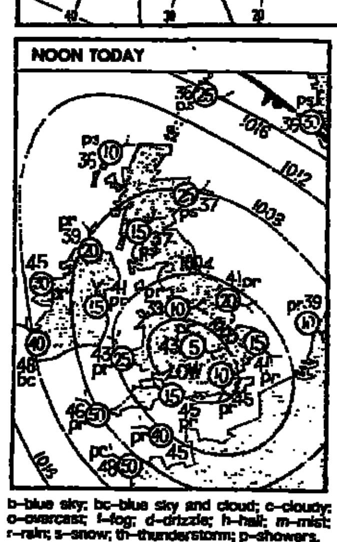
Yesterday: Highest day temp: Penzance 9C (48F); lowest day max: Lerwick 4C (39F); highest rainfall: Ilfracombe 1.35in; highest sunshine: Lowestoft 6.7hr.

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 8C (46F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6 pm, 83 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.17in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 2.9 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,004.1 millibars, rising
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

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NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded



b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5.26	7.2	5.58	6.9
Aberdeen	5.09	3.9	8.22	4.2
Avonmouth	10.59	12.9	11.23	12.1
Belfast	2.43	3.3	3.07	3.7
Cardiff	10.44	11.9	11.08	11.2
Devonport	9.39	5.3	9.58	5.0
Dover	2.32	6.6	2.57	6.2
Falmouth	9.09	5.1	9.28	4.8
Glasgow	4.46	4.7	4.58	5.2
Harwich	3.23	3.9	3.58	3.7
Holyhead	1.51	5.2	2.12	5.4
Hull	10.04	7.0	10.14	7.4
Ilfracombe	9.45	8.8	10.05	8.2
Leith	6.28	5.2	6.53	5.4
Liverpool	2.47	9.6	3.07	9.1
Lowestoft	12.55	2.6	1.32	2.1
Margate	3.31	4.8	4.07	4.5
Milford Haven	10.03	6.8	10.26	6.3
Newquay	8.58	6.8	9.22	6.3
Oban	9.14	3.6	9.49	3.4
Penzance	8.49	5.4	9.10	5.1
Portland	10.31	2.0	10.58	1.7
Portsmouth	3.09	4.7	3.24	4.5
Shoreham	2.46	6.3	3.07	5.9
Southampton	2.30	4.6	2.49	4.3
Swansea	10.04	9.1	10.29	8.5
Tees	7.33	5.0	7.47	5.2
Walton-on-Naze	3.11	4.2	3.45	3.9

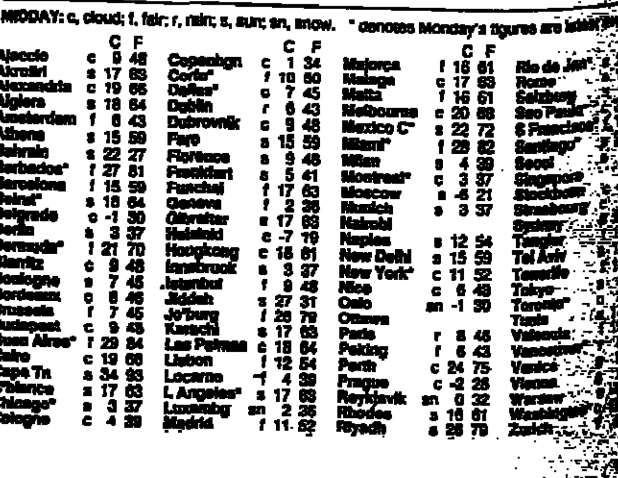
Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	4.5	.28	7	45	Sunny am
Bridlington	4.4	.21	6	43	Shwrs pm
Cromer	5.0	.18	8	46	Sunny
Lowestoft	6.7	-	8	46	Sunny
Clacton	5.7	.06	7	45	Sunny
Margate	-	.15	8	46	Showers
Folkestone	4.3	.19	8	46	Shwrs pm
Hastings	2.1	.22	8	46	Shwrs pm
Eastbourne	2.4	.22	7	45	Shwrs pm
Brighton	-	.30	7	45	Showers
Worthing	3.2	.31	8	46	Showers
Littlehmptn	3.5	.22	8	46	Showers
Bognor R	3.5	.26	7	45	Shwrs pm
Southsea	2.4	.43	8	46	Hail pm
Shanklin	2.7	.43	8	46	Showers
Bournemth	0.9	.57	8	46	Showers
Poole	0.1	.45	8	46	Showers
Swanage	0.8	.54	8	46	Showers
Weymouth	0.3	.51	8	46	Shwrs am
Exmouth	1.1	.39	8	46	Showers
Torquay	2.0	.26	9	48	Showers
Falmouth	2.6	.25	9	48	Showers
Penzance	2.5	.13	9	48	Rain
Jersey	3.9	.17	8	46	Bright

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Guernsey	1.9	.61	8	46	Thunder
Scilly Isles	1.9	.13	9	48	Showers
Newquay	0.8	.18	8	46	Showers
Ilfracombe	-	1.35	8	46	Rain
Tenby	1.6	.15	9	48	Cloudy
Southport	0.3	.12	7	46	Cloudy
Morecambe	0.3	.18	7	45	Shwrs pm
Douglas	-	.47	6	43	Shwrs pm
London (Ctrl)	2.9	.17	8	46	Shwrs pm
B'ham (Airpt)	0.4	.13	8	46	Rain pm
Bristol (Ctrl)	1.4	.44	8	46	Showers
Cardiff (Ctrl)	0.1	.36	7	45	Showers
Anglesey	2.3	.21	8	46	Showers
B'pool (Airpt)	1.0	.11	8	46	Showers
Manchester	0.5	.04	8	46	Shwrs pm
Nottingham	0.9	.13	8	46	Shwrs pm
N'cstl-u-Tyne	0.4	.14	7	45	Shwrs pm
Carlisle	0.9	.14	7	45	Rain pm
Eskdalemuir	0.7	.46	4	39	Rain pm
Prestwick	-	.05	5	41	Shwrs pm
Glasgow	-	.06	5	41	Rain pm
Tiree	0.6	-	8	46	[illegible]
Stornoway	1.7	-	6	43	Bright pm
Lerwick	-	.14	4	39	Showers

Abroad



MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow. * denotes Monday's figures are latest available

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	c	9	48	Copenhgn	c	1	34	Majorca	f	16	61	Rio de Jan*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Akrotiri	s	17	63	Corfu*	f	10	50	Malaga	c	17	63	Rome	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Alexandria	c	19	66	Dallas*	c	7	45	Malta	f	16	61	Salzburg	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Algiers	s	18	64	Dublin	r	6	43	Melbourne	c	20	68	Sao Paulo*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amsterdam	f	6	43	Dubrovnik	c	9	48	Mexico C*	s	22	72	S Francisco*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Athens	s	15	59	Faro	s	15	59	Miami*	f	28	82	Santiago*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bahrain	s	22	27	Florence	s	9	48	Milan	s	4	39	Seoul	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barbados*	f	27	81	Frankfurt	s	5	41	Montreal*	c	3	37	Singapore	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barcelona	f	15	59	Funchal	f	17	63	Moscow	s	-6	21	Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beirut*	s	18	64	Geneva	f	2	36	Munich	s	3	37	Strasbourg	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Belgrade	c	-1	30	Gibraltar	s	17	63	Nairobi				Sydney	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Berlin	s	3	37	Helsinki	c	-7	19	Naples	s	12	54	Tangier	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bermuda*	f	21	70	Hongkong	c	16	61	New Delhi	s	15	59	Tel Aviv	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Biarritz	c	9	48	Innsbruck	s	3	37	New York*	c	11	52	Tenerife	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boulogne	s	7	45	Istanbul	f	9	48	Nice	c	6	43	Tokyo	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bordeaux	c	8	46	Jiddah	s	27	31	Oslo	sn	-1	30	Toronto*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	f	7	45	Jo'burg	f	26	79	Ottawa				Tunis	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Budapest	c	9	48	Karachi	s	17	63	Paris	r	8	46	Valencia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Buen Aires*	f	29	84	Las Palmas	c	18	64	Peking	f	6	43	Vancouver*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cairo	c	19	66	Lisbon	f	12	54	Perth	c	24	75	Venice	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cape Tn	s	34	93	Locarno	f	4	39	Prague	c	-2	28	Vienna	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
C'blanca	s	17	63	L Angeles*	s	17	63	Reykjavik	sn	0	32	Warsaw	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chicago*	s	3	37	Luxembg	sn	2	35	Rhodes	s	16	61	Washington*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cologne	c	4	39	Madrid	f	11	52	Riyadh	s	26	79	Zurich	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

هكذا من الأصل